MARCH 15, 2001 [53.25]

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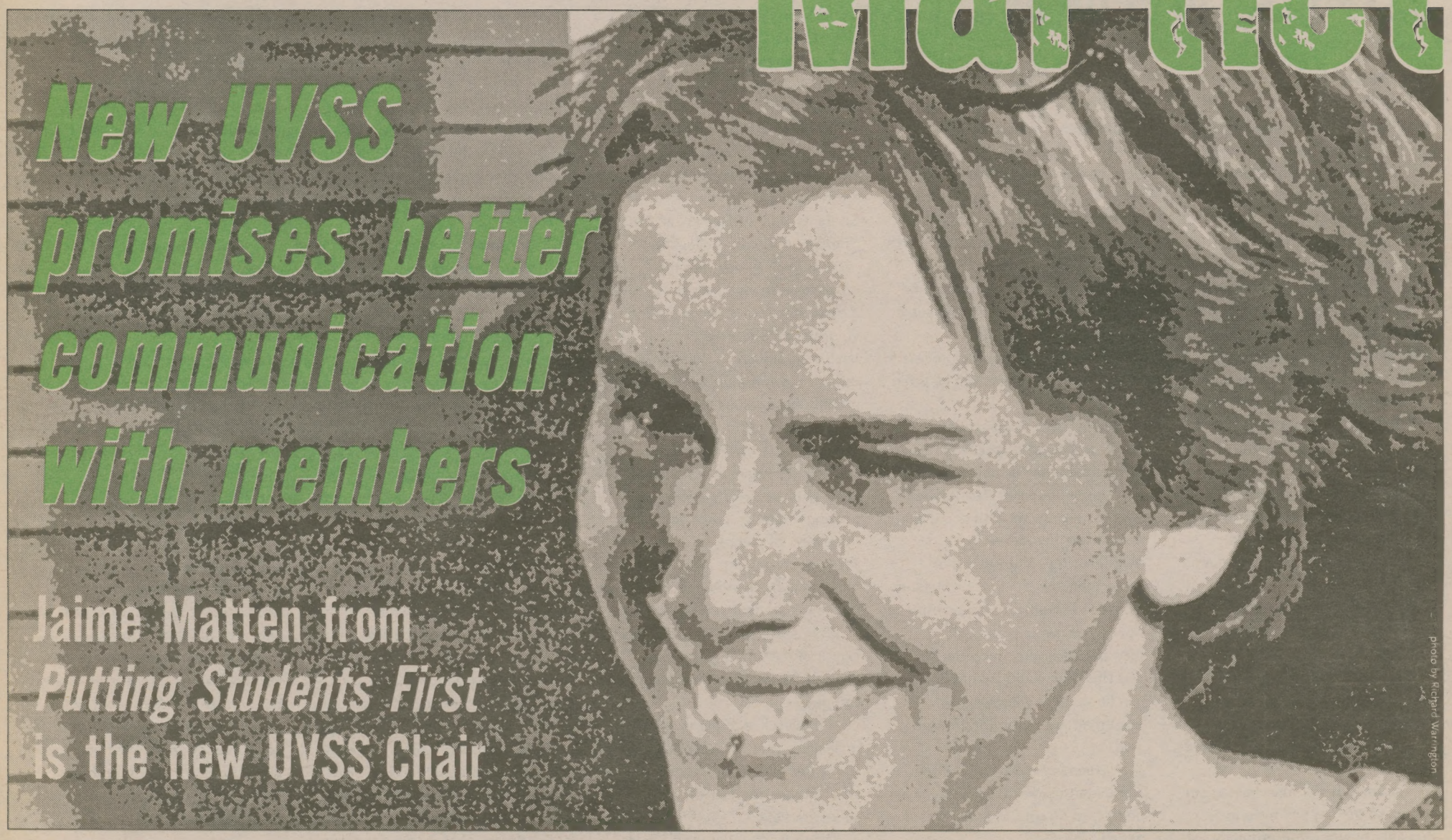

New UVSS promises better communication with members
Jaime Matten from Putting Students First is the new UVSS Chair
photo by Richard Warrington

Election tainted with in-fighting culls high voter turn-out

by Jason Gondziola

Similar to election nights the world over, the Student Union Building (SUB) was a weird spectacle of drunkenness, loud music and comraderie during the 2001 vote count. The silence of the Michele Pujol room was broken only by the occasional giggle, laugh or sidelong comment.

A quick look from the electoral officers promptly silenced the guilty parties and the counting of ballots continued. The room nearly cracked with anticipation. This was it: 12 days and nearly $20,000 later, the decision about the next student government trickled down the pipe.

The prospective student leaders eagerly watched the result boards with glossed-over eyes as the numbers began to add up. As the night stretched on into the early hours of morning, it became clear that the University of Victoria Student Society (UVSS) was to be in the hands of another left-wing government.

Vertigo and Felicita's had long since shut their doors by the time the final tabulations were complete. Finally, the chaos, campaigning and competition of the past 12 days had come to an end.

The great majority of seats, including the four executive positions and eight Directors at Large, were awarded to members of the Putting Students First (PSF) slate. The opposing slate, Students for a Progressive Unified Democracy (SPUD), won three seats on the Board of Directors, while a single seat was won by independent candidate Adam Peters.

> We really busted our asses trying to get the vote percentage that we did. It's a really difficult thing because the students' society doesn't really interact with the majority of the student body.
>
> *Shane Calder, chief electoral officer*

Voter turnout was an astounding 28.6 per cent, second only to the voter turnout for the UPass vote in 1998. Two factors can be pinpointed as chief motivators for this large turnout: the UPass referenda issues and the high degree of competitiveness between the two slates.

"I think that more people came out to vote because of the nature of this election," said Jaime Matten, Chairperson-elect. "Things get interesting when they're contested."

Both sides concede that competition always makes for a fine race.

"I think it had a lot to do with the referendum, but I also think that the election was so hotly contested that it made people come out and vote," said Joanna Groves, one of SPUD's newly-elected Directors at Large.

Opposition leader Andrew McVie warns that the stiff competition means that a large pool of students are looking for change, including a more accessible, accountable student society.

"To have the chair-race between someone who is right wing and someone who is left wing be within 9.4 points is incredible," said McVie. "I think that says that the students want a change. Some of them were concerned that myself and Keir weren't the change that they wanted, but there's definitely a movement of students out there who are interested in seeing a more reasonable UVSS."

Compared to recent elections, this was a close one, thick with tension between the two slates.

"We definitely had our differences," said Jonas Gifford, the new Director of Finance. "All the candidates had complaints about the other candidates. It's part of the election process."

Conflict between the two slates revolved around poster size, polling station hours and misrepresenting the current financial credibility of the UVSS.

"I think in terms of the actual slates, we were very good to each other. We agreed right from the beginning that we wouldn't attack each other in public," said McVie. "But behind the scenes it was an ugly election."

Differences aside, most people were very pleased with how the election ran behind the scenes. "I think that the electoral officers did an excellent job," said Keir Wilmut, SPUD candidate for Director of Finance. His sentiments were echoed by virtually all candidates interviewed.

"We really busted our asses trying to get the vote percentage that we did," said Shane Calder, chief electoral officer, adding many students don't really see themselves as part of a democratic government.

"It's a really difficult thing because the student society doesn't really interact with the majority of the student body."

The point is well taken by Matten who says that communication is the big issue in the upcoming year. Next year's student body should see a government that strives to be more receptive to their concerns, she says.

"I feel a lot better about the executive going in, because they had a race and won it," said Scott Hart, the SPUD candidate for Director of Services.

"They've heard a lot of criticism and hopefully that will be a positive thing."

Now it's all over. Friday night's count settled the debate – for now. SPUD wanted to give things a shake and question the status quo, and, as the numbers indicate, they did just that. Next year's student government is under a mandate from the voting students.

"Everybody who is on the Board of Directors worked really hard, and it sets the tone for your position," said Matten. "They'll appreciate their winning a lot more."

Official Election Results

Chairperson

Jaime Matten (PSF)	1593 (54.74 %)
Andrew McVie (SPUD)	1317 (45.26 %)
Spoiled	1003

Academics

Sarah Webb (PSF)	1309 (45.50%)
Mark Stuart (Indie)	805 (27.98%)
Salma Kahale (Indie)	763 (26.52 %)
Spoiled	1034

Services

Michelle Kinney (PSF)	1302 (45.32 %)
Scott Hart (SPUD)	809 (28.16%)
Chuck Wootten (Indie)	762 (26.52%)
Spoiled	1042

Finance

Jonas Gifford (PSF)	1516 (53.46%)
Keir Wilmut (SPUD)	1320 (46.52%)
Spoiled	1065

UPass Fee Increase

Yes	3376 (82.66%)
No	708 (17.34%)
Spoiled	54

UPass Indexing

Yes	2328 (60.11%)
No	1331 (34.37%)
Spoiled	214

Constituency Fund

Yes	2136 (57.93%)
No	1551 (42.07%)
Spoiled	256

Directors At Large Elected

Zoe Bake-Paterson (PSF)
Amy Chen (PSF)
Roslyn Miller (PSF)
Joanna Groves (SPUD)
Danielle Brown (PSF)
Meghan Jezewski (PSF)
William George (PSF)
Rachael MacDonald (PSF)
Emily Wilson (SPUD)
Jordan Anderson (SPUD)
Adam Peters (Indie)

* It is important to note that the high number of spoiled ballots was caused by a high number of people voted only on the referenda issues and discarded their other ballots.

Victoria takes steps to establish greenways

by Michael Cox

The Garden City is only getting greener.

It may take a few months yet, but the city agreed to apply for a Provincial Capital Commission (PCC) grant to establish a greenways master plan here in Victoria.

Doug Koch, manager of the city's planning division, said the council must first establish a definition for a greenway in an urban setting.

"It could be an umbrella for a huge number of things, from tree conservation to bike paths," Koch said. "There's really no limit to what can be included."

The provincial grant would give the city $30,000 for development of the plan. Koch said the city's contribution would be staff hours and resources.

"There will definitely be consultation with community groups," he said.

Saanich has an established greenways master plan, but Victoria's urban landscape has "unique" needs and priorities, said Koch.

Victoria doesn't have vast green space, so the city will have to consider how the community wants to see paths, streets, grass boulevards and parks linked within the community.

"There's a real good basis for a greenways system in the city," Koch said. "We've got about 200 kilometres of grass boulevards.

Currently, council makes decisions on an individual basis for development, beautification and renewal projects. In establishing a greenways plan, projects like the Broad Street revitalization, St. Ann's grounds improvements and the Beacon Hill master plan would be prioritized within the city budget, Koch said.

But it's too early in the process to discern which projects will be given priority.

Wendy Zink, manager of city development, said greenways plans to date focus on suburban areas.

Victoria councilor Pam Madoff said the greenways plan could also help strengthen ties with neighbouring communities. A project like the city-funded Matson Lands in Esquimalt is an example of how a greenways plan could incorporate diverse projects.

"This plan could look at how we can hook up to greenways in Esquimalt and View Royal," Madoff said.

A greenways plan could also eliminate the need for the city to double up on certain projects, she added.

Constituency groups given green light in referendum

by Ben Isitt

Constituency groups at the University of Victoria are celebrating after students voted last week to have their fees increased by $2 per semester.

Starting next September, an annual total of roughly $46,000 will be divvied up between the Women's Centre, UVic Pride, the Society for Students with a Disability and the Students of Colour Collective.

"I'm really happy with the outcome, although I do know it was a close vote," said Women's Centre co-ordinator Sharmeen Khan. "We do have a lot of work to do in terms of outreach, promotion and education around these issues."

The referendum question was approved by a margin of 57.9 per cent 'for' compared with 41.9 per cent 'against.' Nearly 4000 undergraduate students voted in three days of polling from March 7-9. Turnout, surpassing 28 per cent, represented a threefold increase from last year's student society elections.

Khan sees the number of votes in favour of the funding as a step towards forming important allies on campus.

"I'd really like to thank all the male allies who've supported us and who voted for the referendum," Khan said. "We welcome any form of solidarity work."

Khan says the Women's Centre, which already receives a $0.95 levy on student fees, will target the new funds toward a Sexual Assault Prevention Program launched recently in conjunction with the OUR Sexual Assault Centre.

Resources may also be committed toward outreach, expanded staffing hours and the hiring of a library co-ordinator to make the centre's publications more accessible to students.

Ayla Lepine, coordinator of the UVic Pride Collective, said she was overwhelmed when she learned the referendum had been approved.

"I'm really impressed at the university community showing support for minority groups on campus," Lepine said. "I want people to recognize that the money is invested into promoting a safer and healthier campus that is eventually free from heterosexism, homophobia and discrimination of sexual minorities in general."

Lepine says Pride also plans to improve and expand its outreach program and develop its library resources. She thinks the referendum outcome represents "a huge step" toward the realization that at UVic, "straight allies are just as important in the struggle for queer rights."

The Students of Colour Collective will see a substantial funding increase from the $900 received from the board of directors last year.

Group member Salma Kahale says the collective would like to undertake more prominent anti-racism campaigns on campus and possibly invite *The Colour Purple* author Alice Walker.

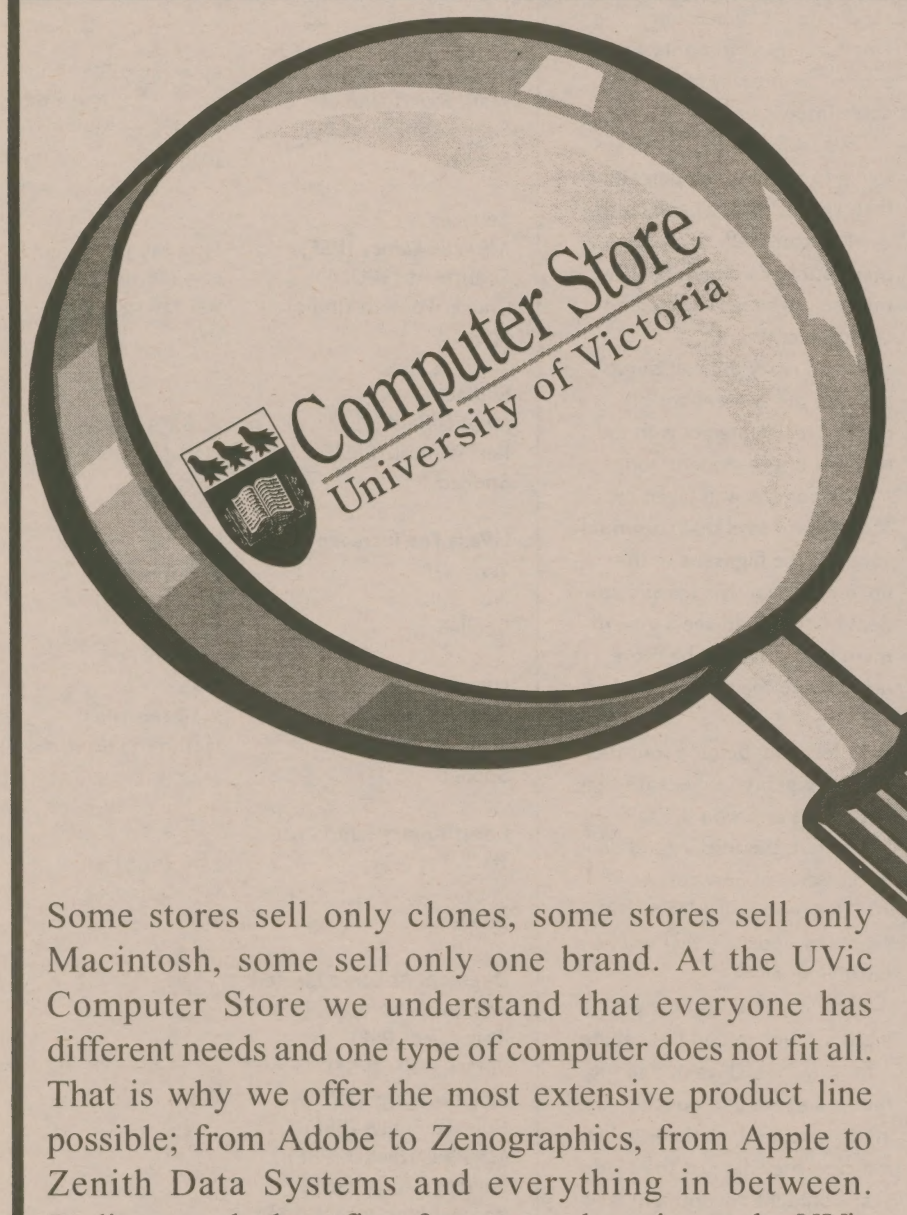
"Like our campaign slogan, racism affects us all, and we all have to take responsibility for eliminating it," Kahale said. "We'll be looking for allies to help organize and plan our events. We encourage anyone who's interested to become involved."

In the weeks ahead, the UVSS organizational development committee will draw up terms of reference for a new Constituency Group Council, following the model of the Clubs and Course Union councils. With representation from the various constituency groups and the board of directors, the council will allocate the funds collected from students.

"I think it's great that the constituency groups will no longer be dependent on the board for funding," said Greg Awai, UVSS director of finance. Under the current arrangement, the board of directors allocates funds on a year-by-year basis. The possibility has always existed that a board hostile to any of the groups could withhold funds. With the positive referendum result, constituency groups will now have a guaranteed source of funding.

Errata

The *Martlet* apologizes to Sarah Pullman for printing an article in last week's issue on the U-Pass without giving her a byline. Thanks Sarah, U-Rock.



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U-Pass yes vote supports public transit

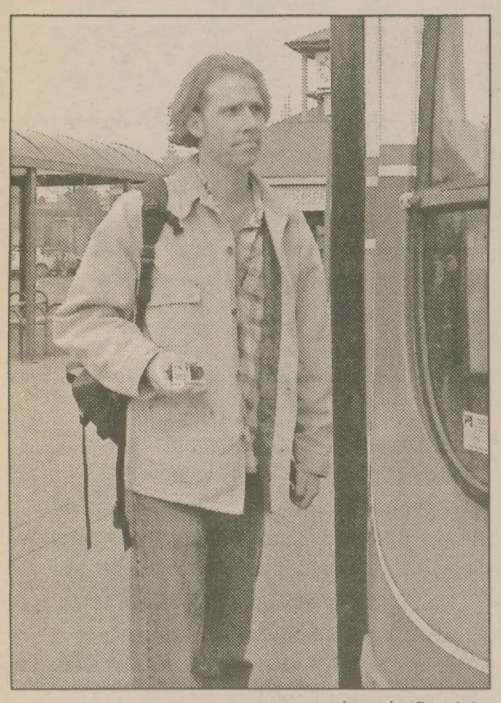

photo by Ben Isitt

U said it: Referendum vote shows U-Pass is a popular choice for student transporation.

by Kevin Groves

It looks like the U-Pass has a bright future on campus after students voted overwhelmingly in favor of the three-dollar fee increase.

They supported as well the indexing of the semesterly U-Pass levy to the price of one adult monthly bus pass less the university subsidy.

The first referendum question passed with an 86.3 per cent majority, while indexation was approved with 63.6 per cent of the vote. Voter turnout was an impressive 28.2 per cent, slightly down from the 1999 referendum when the U-Pass was first approved. At the time, over 30 per cent of UVic students voted 68 per cent in favour of the bus pass.

BC Transit marketing manager Chris Foord says he is very pleased with the referendum's result.

"We were hoping for a substantial majority in favor of the U-Pass referendum questions, and it's great to see that we were right."

But not everyone involved in the referendum is as pleased with the result as Foord.

Morgan Stewart, who headed the "No" side of the referendum, said it was great that students showed their support of the U-Pass, but suggested that greater wariness of BC Transit's intentions is required.

Stating that it is in BC Transit's best interests to give UVic students "a better deal," Stewart expressed concern that BC Transit will continue to take advantage of student support for the U-Pass in the future, in the form of further fee hikes, and that what students should be pushing for is more direct control of these issues.

Saying that the three-dollar fee increase will only generate an extra $150,000, Stewart indicated several other ways for BC Transit to generate additional revenue, such as increasing Victoria property taxes by one dollar, increasing enrolment at UVic and federal funding to BC Transit.

But Greg Awai, outgoing UVSS director of finance, says UVic students are being singled out by BC Transit. Since the second referendum question involving indexation passed, Awai said that BC Transit would have to push any further fee increase onto the general public, not just UVic students.

"I believe that the U-Pass contract will still be renegotiated every few years and in the future students should be careful about scrutinizing the necessity for such a price. However, I do believe that it is the government's responsibility to provide free transit, and we should be primarily working towards that goal."

Foord adamantly asserted that BC Transit has no hidden agenda in this referendum.

"If revenue was our main objective, we would probably be looking to cancel the program. The U-Pass will never be a good revenue generator for us, and it has always been a better deal for students than BC Transit."

Foord said that BC Transit wants alternative sources of funding, and hopes that bus-pass sales will increase after a federal decision to make them tax deductible.

Foord said that the increasing cost of fuel has forced BC Transit to search for better contracts in order to save money. In the spring of 2000, BC Transit committed to a two-year fuel contract with its main suppliers.

It currently pays 13 or 14 cents per litre less than the regular pump price, which Foord says could "save us nearly a million dollars a year."

The big question now that the U-Pass has been approved is what services students can expect for their money. Will buses begin to run past midnight for students boozing it up in the bar? Transit hinted in this direction prior to the creation of the U-Pass in 1999, but they've said little since.

Foord says that BC Transit is receptive to pressure to provide later and more frequent service on major bus routes.

"We know very well that there is high demand to provide later service, and we're working toward providing that."

Some measures BC Transit has taken to provide later service include having late-night routes end at UVic rather than downtown.

As well, BC Transit is looking at purchasing new buses to accommodate the higher ridership that has resulted from the U-Pass. These purchases include seven more of the smaller DART buses that have recently been seen on Victoria streets. The intention is to use the DARTs on rural routes to free up bigger buses for the city.

Twelve more double-deckers are also scheduled to arrive by spring 2002 to accommodate major bus routes like the 14, which Foord says is "cleared for double-deckers."

UVic student seeks NDP seat in Vernon

by Ben Isitt

At eight years old, Troy Sebastien braved the sweltering summer sun to go door-to-door canvassing with his mother during the 1983 provincial election campaign.

Sixteen years later, the UVic history and political-science student has put his name forward as the New Democratic Party candidate in the interior riding of Okanagan-Vernon.

"When I was eight, I couldn't tell you what the acronym 'NDP' stood for, but I knew that it was the good fight," Sebastien said. He won the party's nomination in a meeting in Vernon Feb. 24.

"I've never identified as a Communist or a Marxist or any other 'ism,'" Sebastien says. "That's not what my politics are about. For me, it's always been about social democracy, about social justice. I've always felt there was a great inequity in society, as an aboriginal person, as a status Indian, and knowing what reserve life was like and seeing the rest of society. I always felt that this needed to change."

Born in Cranbrook in 1975, Sebastien lived on the St. Mary's reservation before moving to Vernon. He is a member of the Ktunaxa First Nation, and he was raised by a single mother who ran a women's centre in Vernon.

With the exception of a brief stint on Nova Scotia's Cape Breton Island in the mid-1980s, Sebastien grew up in the B.C. interior town, graduating in 1994 and taking some classes at Okanagan University College. In 1996, he moved to Victoria and worked the graveyard shift in the laundry at the Coast Harbourside Hotel. He soon decided to return to college, enrolling at Camosun in January 1998.

Sebastien served as a director of the Camosun College Student Society, as well as the aboriginal representative on the Canadian Federation of Students' national executive. He joined the NDP in Nov. 1999.

Sebastien concedes that the NDP is down in the polls, but he has yet to surrender to what many believe will be a Liberal victory in the election that must be called by June 30.

Sebastien will face stiff competition from Liberal candidate Tom Christiansen, who is also a newcomer to provincial politics. The NDP does not consider Okanagan-Vernon to be a "high priority" riding, and Sebastien does not expect to receive any funding from the party's provincial office.

So what vision does Sebastien have for society?

"I think what binds us together, not only as British Columbians or Canadians, is our human nature – not money. It seems to me that everything gets limited by money."

Sebastien said people need to try and change the system if they are unhappy with it, and he isn't going to be a yes-man if elected.

"I'm not a blind follower of the party faith. There's certain things that the NDP has done in the last nine years that I'm not proud of," he said citing the RCMP crackdown on native sovereigntists at Gustafsen lake.

But Sebastien thinks the NDP has succeeded in getting a dialogue going through the B.C. treaty process, and he thinks the Nisga'a agreement is something to be proud of.

He says the election will be about challenging the B.C. Liberal party to outline the type of society they envision.

"It will be clear what the alternatives are," Sebastien says. In terms of healthcare, he says the NDP has done a good job maintaining and increasing spending in the face of massive cuts in federal transfer payments. "The alternative is a Ralph Klein-style healthcare system with privatization and hospital closures."

In terms of the environment, Sebastien draws from his aboriginal roots.

"My commitment is that we have to sustain and enhance the environment for seven generations to come," he says. This "Pan-Indian teaching," which Sebastien says is shared by elders from many different nations, works on the premise that actions take seven generations to work their way through a people. Sebastien thinks this long-term vision of environmental sustainability is the way to go.

"We've totally pillaged the land. We're totally disrespecting our environment for short-term gain. We can't live like that."

He thinks Premier Dosanjh's recently tabled Working Forests legislation, which has been strongly condemned by some environmentalists, needs to be open to revision and reflection, but he defends the idea of maintaining working forests.

"From my family and friends in the Okanagan, I know that the forestry industry gives a lot of jobs to people. What changes we do make have to take into consideration the human cost."

In the realm of post-secondary education, Sebastien supports the NDP's policy of reducing tuition fees and says we need to resist the shift toward corporate funding.

"Education – whether post-secondary, primary, or secondary – is a public institution. If it comes down to us looking for private funding, it means we have failed for ourselves. The end should not be to make money. It should be to educate people and enrich our society."

Full service still weeks away

by Kevin Groves

It may be an uncomfortable couple of weeks until transit service is back to normal in Victoria.

Students have faced over-crowded buses and cancelled services since 57 low-floor buses were removed from Victoria streets after a bus driver in Nanaimo encountered steering problems and drove up on the sidewalk last month.

Transit pulled the buses off the roads the day after the accident, in which no one was injured as the bus was travelling at a cautious 10 kilometres per hour. A year earlier, a similar incident occurred in Kamloops.

"We're waiting for new parts to come in from Germany, and we're not sure if they've even been manufactured yet," Foord said. "At this time we can't say exactly when most of our low-floors will be back on the road again."

A week after BC Transit's move, a continent-wide recall of a German-made radius rod was issued. The rod is a major suspension part located under the bus that anchors the front axle to the frame. If the part fails, the axle can come loose, reducing steering control.

To help maintain service during the part replacements, BC Transit has borrowed ten buses from Vancouver to supplement their existing fleet, which at 167 is 15 fewer than is necessary to cover rush hour service.

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ALL WELCOME

City throws a fist at the feds, NAFTA

by Gillian Jerome

As world trade leaders prepare to meet in Quebec City in April and builders build a concrete wall around the city, Victoria's municipal fist emerges from the council chambers.

At a March 12 meeting, city councillors voted unanimously to send a letter to Ottawa urging the feds not to sign any more trade agreements, like the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), which interfere in municipal decisions to protect the health of its citizens and the environment.

Penned by councilor Rob Fleming, the motion follows a January decision by Vancouver's council urging Ottawa to take a stand against the way Chapter 11 of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) undermines municipal power in favour of investor rights.

With April and Quebec City's Summit of the America's fast approaching, will a letter to the feds have any clout?

Jim Abram, president of the Union of B.C. Municipalities (UBCM), says it will.

Making reference to a NAFTA tribunal decision ordering the Mexican county of Guadalcazar to pay damages to the waste-disposal firm Metalclad Inc., Abram sent a letter to Ottawa and every local government in B.C. condemning Chapter 11, NAFTA and future trade agreements like it.

"There's no doubt that it's a very serious case. What's happened in Mexico could easily happen here."

Besides Victoria and Vancouver, Abbotsford and Port McNeil are the only two municipalitites to inquire about the Metalclad case so far, says UBCM senior policy analyst Harriet Permut.

"I'm almost glad that they don't pass resolutions because they usually don't know what they're talking about. Metalclad is pretty esoteric. People have concerns about the impacts of trade agreements on municipal governments but GATT, WTO... They don't understand the difference between them."

Permut says that due to limited resources, the UBCM leaves negotiations with the feds on behalf of municipalites up to the province's Ministry of Employment and Investment.

"But it's frustrating because their talks [with the federal government on the FTAA] are confidential. They're bound by secrecy."

No federal campaign for municipalities

Although Abram has asked for the support of the Canadian Federation of Municipalities, president Joanne Monaghan says there is no organized campaign against the FTAA. As for the Metalclad case, she says the federation is waiting for the results of the trial.

Some activists wonder whether or not lobbying is the best measure against the FTAA summit.

"The municipality's reactions, and the NDP coming out against the FTAA, certainly gives us more legitimacy," says Eric Lescarbeau, co-ordinator for the FTAA teach-in, a local event organized by the Victoria Mobilization for Global Justice. "But that doesn't mean it's the answer. The key is going to be the pressure on the ground."

While the Quebec City prison is being cleared in anticipation of mass arrests, the City of Victoria is watching a B.C. Supreme Court appeal trial concerning the fate of residents of the sparsely populated La Pedrera Valley, located 70 kilometres from the county of Guadalcazar, Mexico.

NAFTA federal signatories undermine local government

In 1991, the US waste-disposal company Metalclad Inc. tried to reopen a toxic waste treatment facility with the support of Mexico's federal government. The municipal governor later stepped in and denied Metalclad a building permit after local residents protested over illegal dumping, poisoned water and birth defects.

Metalclad filed for damages to the tune of $90 million US under NAFTA's Chapter 11, which gives corporations the right to sue governments for lost profit. The three-person NAFTA arbitration panel decided that Metalclad deserved $16 million in compensation for Guadalcazar's "improper intervention."

The county's appeal of the decision is now being heard in the B.C. Supreme Court in Vancouver. If the NAFTA ruling is overturned, the Mexican federal goverment will pay the $16 million award since the town of Guadalcazar is too poor. A victory for Metalclad could set an important precedent for the state and municipal authorities in Canada, the US and Mexico.

"It's a new phase in the world that more rights are granted to non-human entitities called corporations than citizens," said Fleming.

Hidden text, secret tribunal

The implications of the award aren't his only concern. Transparency is a key issue in the trial: should decisions affecting local peoples and the right to steward their own land be made by international trade experts behind closed doors?

Against the backdrop of the Metalclad trial, negotiations are underway to establish a continent-wide free trade zone. The Free Trade Area of the Americas would establish NAFTA-like provisions between 34 countries from Canada to Chile. From April 20 to 22, delegates to the Summit of the Americas in Quebec City will the lay the groundwork for the FTAA.

Concerned groups across Canada have been petitioning for the release of the entire FTAA draft proposal, and a decision is due March 20.

But a recent House of Commons vote to keep the text of the agreement hidden is clearly a danger sign, Fleming says. The Bloc Quebecois, the New Democratic Party and even members of the Canadian Alliance voted in favour of more transparency in FTAA planning. But in the end, the Liberal majority supporting transparency won out.

"It means that there's not a lot of awareness as to how the rules of the game may change," says Fleming.

Global trade, local impact

The stakes behind the struggle between transnational-investment rights versus local government are huge. Fleming points out that the plight of Guadalcazar residents is closer to home than we might think.

"If an American company wanted to open a nuclear waste site in Saanich after going through a similar process, the results wouldn't be that much different."

The main difference is, of course, a stronger tax base, but that still doesn't add up. "The city [of Victoria] has an annual operating budget of $110 million. A NAFTA decision to award $80 million would saddle us in debt for 30 years."

"It's about the erosion of domestic sovereignty," says Sierra legal defence fund executive director Karen Riston, noting that her entire staff observed the trial for a day. For Riston, the Metalclad case is about the rights of domestic courts to protect the environment over international trader interests.

"If Metalclad wins, it won't be about enforcing our own laws. It'll be about kicking trade out the back door. If we can't even make our own laws what we do here is pretty useless."

Sierra lawyers say the federal government has to ensure that both NAFTA and the FTAA guarantee environmental protections as criteria for investment to safeguard against signatory countries like Mexico violating its own laws to attract foreign investment.

Victoria's FTAA teach takes place here at UVic in the SUB's Michèle Pujol room, Sat., March 24 from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. To register call 382-2163.

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Local resident seeks to bar cars from Dallas Road

by Michael Cox

In a town famed for Sunday drivers, one Victoria resident is taking a step to establish a more pedal-friendly Dallas Road.

Jane Victoria-King, of the Fairfield Community Association, is only a few permits away from officially launching Fresh Air Car Free Day set for April 1. Dallas Road will closed to vehicle traffic from noon to 4 p.m. "I was walking along Dallas Road one day, when I thought 'wouldn't it be nice to have one day where we could enjoy the sea side and fresh air without the smell of cars,'" King said.

If city council decides to give the event the go-ahead, Dallas Road will be closed from Cook to St. Charles streets.

"It's an initiative for building healthy communities," King argues. "My vision is to see it happen every Sunday."

While the road will be closed to cars, King said she is urging people to use alternative forms of transportation to get to Dallas Road for the event. King argues that closing down the road means much more than pedestrians and cyclists taking back the city streets.

"This is a great opportunity to get people outside and exercise and learn about the ocean at the same time," she said.

King has planned two outdoor theatre events aimed at educating both kids and adults about the environmental impact people have on the ocean, and what can be down to protect the shorelines.

Victoria Police will be assigned to block off major entrances to Dallas Road and BC Transit has agreed to re-route the number 10 bus during those four hours, King said. But even with the backing of police and transit, some Victoria councilors are hesitant about shutting the road down.

Councilor David McLean argues that closing down a major road, and an advertised scenic drive, could cause problems in surrounding neighbourhoods.

"If it's a spectacular day, how many cars are going to be diverted into the subdivision?" he questioned. "In principle it's fair, but it needs to be tweaked."

Mayor Alan Lowe echoed McLean's concerns, adding that tour buses couldn't be diverted into subdivisions.

"Tour bus operators would have to be informed because they would all be diverted," he said.

King said she has made arrangements to have tour bus traffic diverted up Cook Street or Fairfield during that time.

UVSS director lashes out at Board of Directors

by Michael Cox

Student society's director of academics, Kari Worton, stopped short of resigning from her position and instead proposed policy reforms at a March 12 board meeting.

Worton criticized board members, accusing them of not listening to students and not sharing the work load.

"I have spent the last two years working 12 hour days, seven days a week," she said. "I am overworked, underpaid and under-appreciated."

Worton said, though she accepts responsibility for taking on so many duties, one board member shouldn't have to take on the bulk of the work.

"I want the society to work in the way it's supposed to work," she said. "I want us to talk really seriously about the way work is distributed among the board."

Worton proposed an evaluation survey intended for directors and members. "Each and every one of you has complained at some point about communication with our membership," Worton chastised the board. "In the next six weeks we are going to communicate with our membership, to my knowledge, like we've never done before."

The survey directed at the board asks members if they feel work is fairly distributed, if members are satisfied with their contribution to board work and a number of other questions.

> Who can't give up one hour of their time? If you don't say you will give up one hour, I will take it that you aren't willing to try and change. I will hunt down every member here and hold them to this decision.
>
> *Kari Worton, UVSS director of accademics*

"It's not set in stone what the standards should be in terms of work," Worton said after the meeting. "The board policy can be fixed to take care of some of that."

Worton challenged every member of the board to spend at least one hour handing out a survey which asks students for their input about the students' society.

Jaime Matten, UVSS director of services, said if the board is going to change it has to happen in the next six weeks so the newly-elected student government can move forward in a fair and sustainable manner.

"We need to leave some kind of legacy behind for the next board with concrete ideas and suggestions," she said. "For the next six weeks this is a positive directive and we should start working on it right away."

Matten echoed Worton's opinion about communication, adding that a student survey is a great idea.

"I think what this board needs to look at is the lack of communication this year," she said after the meeting. "Simple structural adjustment such as setting definite committee meeting times can increase student participation."

Following Worton's lead, newly elected director of academics Sarah Webb proposed a new policy that would require board members to talk to their classes every month about current topics or student society campaigns.

"This will encourage the board of director's accountability," she said. "Starting it right away would make for continuity for the upcoming board."

Making board members speak to their classes about UVSS projects and programs didn't sit well with all the members of the board.

Andrew McVie argued that requiring board members to take class time could lead to negative impacts for board members.

"Some professors might not be willing to let board members speak to the class, so encouraging members to do this might be more effective," he said.

But Webb said encouraging board members doesn't get any results.

"It is encouraged now. It doesn't happen." she said.

Board members supported Worton's motion to reform communication with students, and Worton said she is going to hold every board member to their vote.

"Who can't give up one hour of their time?" she asked the board. "If you don't say you will give up one hour, I will take it that you are willing to try and change. I will hunt down every member here and hold them to this decision."

Peter banned from the SUB

by Michael Cox

After the university banned Peter Verin from every building on campus except the Student Union Building (SUB) and campus security, the student society board of directors voted to ban him from the SUB.

At the March 12 board meeting, union unit president Jen Lang filed a grievance by the United Steel Workers of America Local 2952 – the union that represents almost all SUB workers.

Lang said the grievance isn't directed at Peter particularly, but focuses instead on health and safety issues for workers in the SUB.

"We weren't specifically asking that Peter be banned from the building," she said. "We were requesting that parts of the collective agreement were remedied."

Verin says he isn't fooled by what he calls a collusive frame against him.

"I believe the union letter made the student society executives sufficiently intimidated to comply."

UVSS director of academics Kari Worton said that since Verin has been banned from other campus buildings, the number of complaints about him in the SUB has increased.

"There have been a number of instances in the building," she said. "He spends all his time here, which is reasonable, but if he is breaking the rules it is reasonable to ban him."

Previously, the students' society set rules that Verin had to abide by while in the SUB, such as wearing shoes, not being allowed to break into the building after hours, not sorting garbage on tables in the SUB and not being allowed to harass students.

Jaime Matten, UVSS director of services, said Verin has been banned because the number of complaints has increased, but the intention is not to have him banned from campus permanently.

"This grievance definitely pushed the board to be way more serious," she said, adding that the ban lasts until April 30 or until mediation with the students' society is complete.

"We want to have a session where Peter feels more empowered and have his advocate there and come to an agreement both sides can agree on," Matten said.

The union grievance puts pressure on the board to make a decision, but the mediation process had already been agreed on before it was filed.

"This forces us to get on it," she said. "We want to come to an agreement so there's an agreement when the new board comes in."

Meanwhile, Peter says he's not about to reduce his situation to a series of unfounded complaints. "If I had to characterize what I thought, I'd say that reality rules."

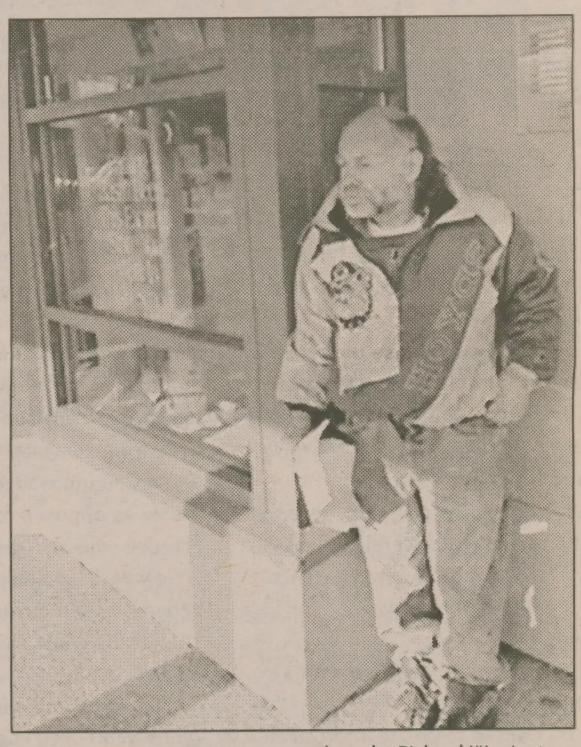

photo by Richard Warrington

Peter Verin has been banned from the SUB after a grievance filed by the Steelworkers Union.

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UVSS Ombudsperson serves UVic students

by Kevin Groves

Ever been standing in a Cinecenta lineup and wondered what the Ombudsperson sign, pasted to the door leading to the SUB's upper floor, means?

"I don't know a lot about the Ombudsperson," says Katrina Herriot, a third-year biology student. "She covers academic problems, right?"

Martine Conway, UVic's official ombuddy, says her purpose is threefold: she acts as an information or referral source by explaining procedures and regulations affecting students; she finds informal resolutions by facilitating communication between students and faculty or staff; she investigates specific cases, recommending changes where necessary in procedures affecting students.

"I'm not a lawyer," Conway says. "I will refer students to appropriate legal aid if the situation requires it. The Ombuds Office advocates on behalf of fairness of process on both sides of a dispute, and [ensures] that each side has proper information."

According to the 2000 Ombudsperson Report, 35 per cent of cases reviewed by the Ombudsperson concerned academic issues such as grade reviews, academic concessions and accusations of academic dishonesty. Allegations included cheating on exams and plagiarism.

Conway says that in 60 per cent of those cases, students came to her office, received the appropriate information, and then went on to resolve their issues with their instructors themselves, usually informally.

In the rest of the cases, students gave the Ombuds Office permission to intervene, and Conway facilitated communication between both sides.

Some recommendations that the Ombuds Office has made include ensuring that instructors educate students on the proper use of citations, and that instructors and TA's implement a clear procedure for dealing with plagiarism.

Another issue brought to the Ombuds Office last year concerned opt-out criteria for the U-Pass. Currently, there are only three grounds on which students can opt-out of their $44 per semester transit fee: if they are studying at Camosun College and already paying for a U-Pass; if they have a disability that prevents them from using public transit; or if they are receiving government financial assistance which includes a free bus pass.

"Basically, the U-Pass opt-out criteria only applies in cases where it is redundant to have it," Conway says. "Otherwise, you have to make a written appeal."

After dealing with several cases regarding the U-Pass last year, the Ombuds Office made recommendations to the UVSS to review U-Pass opt-out and appeal processes with a view to developing distinct criteria and procedures.

In total, the Ombuds Office dealt with 182 cases of all kinds in the year 2000. A further 220 requests for information were received over the phone.

Every undergraduate student at UVic pays $1.50 per semester to support the office of the Ombudsperson, and some may question whether the service is necessary given the number of cases relative to this number of students here at UVic.

But Kari Worton, current UVSS Director of Academics, believes that the Ombudsperson plays a vital role.

"I realize that 400 cases may seem a small percentage of the UVic undergrads, but those cases would have nowhere else to go without the Ombudsperson."

Worton says that academic appeals require a significant amount of work, particularly at the beginning and end of the school year. Having undertaken some academic appeals herself, Worton says the Ombudsperson takes a great degree of pressure off students negotiating their way through the various levels of university bureaucracy.

"Students will come in who will be kicked out of their homes if they aren't allowed to register for school, or who felt harassed by class climates."

Conway defends the necessity of the Ombuds Office. In spite of the relatively small number of cases, she says each case represents issues that a much larger proportion of UVic students have either dealt with themselves, or can relate to.

As well, Conway says that she sits on several university committees, including the Human Rights Committee, which deals with discrimination and harassment issues on campus.

Pointing out that many post-secondary institutions have a full-time Ombudsperson, Worton says that the student society is in the process of writing a funding proposal for both UVic and the Graduate Students' Society (GSS) to subsidize longer hours.

For Conway this is welcome news.

"The funding proposal gives me huge potential to better serve UVic students. I would like to do more proactive things, like more publicity, and more workshops to help students deal with their issues, and more funding would certainly enable me to do this more effectively."

The Office of the Ombudsperson is located in SUB B205, up the stairs beside the Cinecenta ticket booth. The phone number is 721-8357.

Harvey breaks borders for PW students

by Craig Battle

UVic students now have a new outlet for publishing professional writing material – only this one makes paper passe.

Harvey, edited and produced by students in the Harvey Southam Diploma program, is UVic's first online writing zine. Sue Handel and Bjorn Thompson, both students in the program, accepted the vacant editorial reigns last fall.

"We wanted to give students something unique where employers can go," said Thompson, a UVic grad with a bachelor's degree in English. "We just wanted to create a forum where a writer can say, 'Hey, here's what I'm doing. Here's a link.'"

Founded by former UVic student Reuben Bronee, *Harvey* boasts seven UVic students' creative non-fiction work, a job-postings board and a journalism-related news page dropped onto a nifty paisley-blue design.

The e-zine accepts and features non-fiction work in a variety of styles, such as travelogue, memoir and biography. The editors are broadening the scope and calling for photography submissions for the spring-semester issue.

"It's an innovative mode of media as opposed to print," said Handel, who also graduated from UVic with a bachelor's in geography and environmental studies. "We just came along and resurrected it."

The program's thesis advisor Lynne Van Luven suggested the e-zine to Handel and Thompson as a possible thesis project. Handel said both had interests in web design and on-line content, and took advantage of the opportunity.

"We'd seen the site when we first applied [to the program]," Thompson said. "We liked the look and liked that it was out there."

So far, the UVic writing community is quickly warming to *Harvey*.

Both editors will fulfill requisite co-op requirements this summer and graduate shortly thereafter. The next issue of *Harvey* will likely be on the web in the fall, but who will produce it is another question.

"We want *Harvey* to continue regardless of who's putting it together," Handel said. "It wants to be passed on to the next generation."

Thompson takes the idea a step further saying, "The hope of any magazine is to develop a tradition or a lineage. We're just trying to ensure the torch is passed."

To have a look, go to finearts.uvic.ca/~harvey.

Men banned from Bogota streets

by Jason Webb

BOGOTA, Colombia (Reuters) – Men were banned from the streets of Colombia's capital Bogota on Friday night in a social experiment to cut violence that turned the few machos who dared to venture out into prey for screaming female mobs.

Bogota's eccentric Mayor Antanas Mockus, a philosopher and mathematician, banned men from the streets for one night so they could reflect on the fact that they cause most of the violence in one of the world's most violent countries.

The experiment apparently worked. Police reported only one murder compared to an average of five on a normal Friday night in this city of six million people.

In Bogota's fashionable Parque 93 neighbourhood, crowds of women and girls took over bars and restaurants and chanted "Go home!" to men they saw.

When the curfew began at 7:30 p.m. local time, many men seemed determined to ignore it. But as the night wore on and female spirits bubbled over, boys and men were chased away.

"It seems a great idea. They should do it several times a year. Tonight is ours," said Ana Rodriguez, a well-dressed woman sitting in a park clutching a bottle of whiskey.

"A night without men will cut accidents and violence," said Nilsa Moya, 35, as she danced in an ecstatic all-female crowd on the steps of a bar.

A male Reuters correspondent obtained a special permit from the mayor's office to go out on the streets. Despite this official protection, he was pelted with flour and water and pushed out of a bar by a mob of screaming girls.

A car full of women shouting at him to go home crashed into a taxi stopped at a red light.

"It was your fault because you should have stayed at home," one of the women said afterward. No one was hurt.

Mockus had hoped to make the "women's night" compulsory but lawyers said that this move would be unconstitutional. Nonetheless his office called on men who insisted on going out to obtain special permits.

It was not official acts but frenzied women who succeeded in intimidating large numbers of men into retreating from certain neighborhoods that became almost all-female carnivals.

Only the poor seemed excluded from the fun. The women ignored homeless men who, as usual, gathered rubbish to sell for recycling.

Control of the city's police force was turned over to Col. Gloria Garcia.

Although crime has fallen slightly in Bogota in recent years, Colombia remains one of the most dangerous countries in the world, wracked by a 37-year-old guerrilla war and a massive cocaine industry.

Mockus himself stayed home for the night with his small daughter. He said that he wanted men to learn to spend more time with their children.

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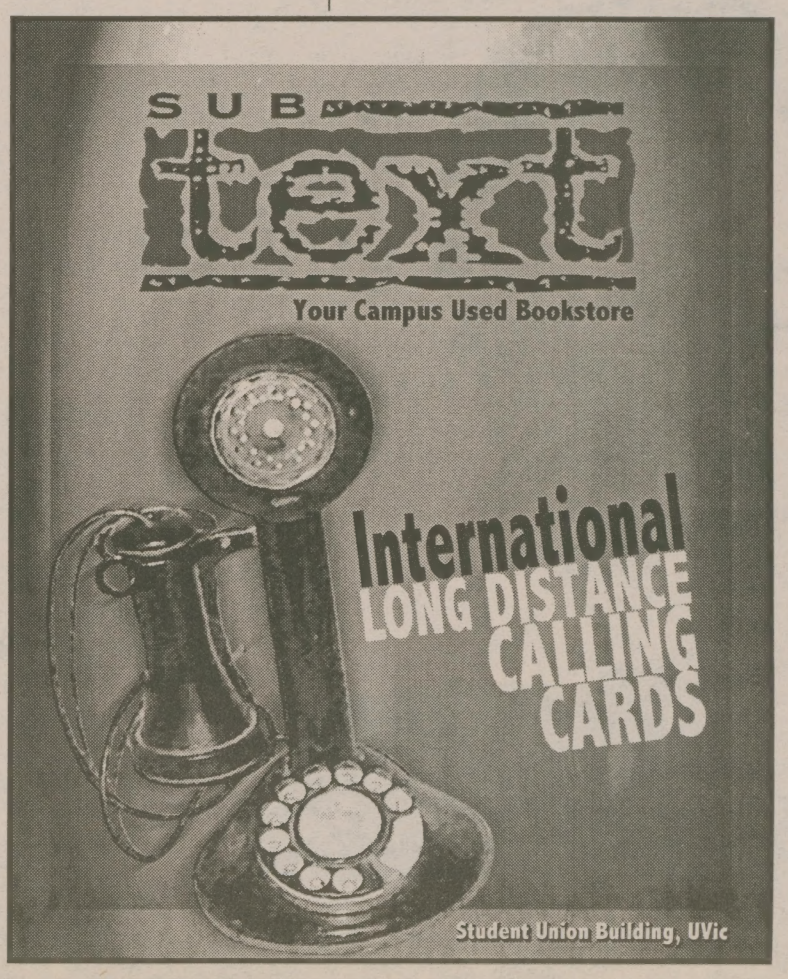


First Nation protests ski resort expansion as Shaggy hits the stage

by Colin Pacholuk and Ian Giesbrecht

KAMLOOPS (CUP) – More than 200 protesters marched through Sun Peaks Resort as a crowd of snowboarders and skiers waited for Shaggy to hit the stage during last weekend's Much Music's Snow Job festival.

Accompanied by the sounds of traditional native drums and chants, the protesters, mostly from the Secwepemc Nation, questioned Sun Peaks Resort's claim to the land and called for an end to a $70-million expansion of the ski resort.

While some news media reported that the protest was against Snow Job, that wasn't the focus, according to Curtis Rattray, a UVic student who attended.

Rattray, a member of the Tahltan Nation in northern B.C., said the point was to draw attention to the resort's proposed $70 million expansion.

Snow Job was just an example of how the boundaries of native people are "being pushed all the time," said Rattray.

Native elder James Saul, 73, asked Sun Peaks officials to show a proof of purchase of the land from the Secwepemc Nation, also known as the Shuswap Nation.

"I want to ask them how did they get this land because it's not theirs," he said. "It belongs to all the native people."

The peaceful protest was the only reminder to Snow Job fans of the dispute between the Secwepemc Nation and the show's producer, Much Music, which nearly cancelled the event.

The Secwepemc Nation had told Much Music it was opposed to Snow Job, which ran from March 6 to 11 and featured performances by bands like Our Lady Peace and Crazy Town.

Chief Arthur Manuel said the resort is on land that was part of an agreement made in 1862 when Chief Neskonlith and Governor James Douglas marked out one million acres for the use of the Secwepemc people. He argues that in 1993 the B.C. government sold parts of that land to resort developer Nippon Cable, without the knowledge or consent of the Secwepemc.

Both the provincial and federal governments contend that there is no evidence such an agreement ever existed.

In February, Manuel said the nationally televised Snow Job would promote the area across Canada and encourage greater growth at the expense of his people. But Much Music decided to go ahead with the event, pointing out that it has the support of some natives in the area – including a band that belongs to the Secwepemc Nation.

During the protest, Neskonlith Indian Band councilor Leanne Edwards told onlookers that she fears the expansion of the Sun Peaks resort will lead to environmental destruction, comparing it to a golf course development in Hawaii which diverted a native group's water source.

"Their fight is the same as our fight," she said. "All indigenous people are the guardians of this land, of Mother Earth."

While few Snow Job fans took notice of the protest, the group's spokeswoman Janice Billy said it got the message out. She said it should put pressure on developers to stop the expansion.

Rattray disagreed. "I didn't leave there with much hope that people got the message and the tv [news] interpretation supports that."

Much Music filmed the protest and will be airing the footage when it broadcasts highlights from Snow Job this week.

"The attention that this issue is getting is positive," said David Kines, vice-president and general manager of Much Music. "It's a social issue that needs to be dealt with. This is something that is relevant to all our viewers."

Sun Peaks spokesman Chris Nicholson said the resort feels caught in the middle.

"We support the process between the government and the First Nations and we support the right to peaceful protest," he said. "It's important not to view this as an us versus them issue. It's between the government and the band."

Although Rattray isn't very positive about the impact of the weekend's demonstration, he did come back with hope for indigenous people's abilities to organize for protest, fusing tradition with social activism.

There is strength in "taking western institutions and turning them into something that belongs to us."

Gunman taken down at University of Alberta

photo provided by CTV News

by Christie Tucker

EDMONTON (CUP) – Police wrestled a man armed with a semi-automatic shotgun to the ground at the University of Alberta March 7, after receiving a tip he was on campus to "settle a score."

Police reported that the suspect was returning to his vehicle with the gun in a case under his arm when two plainclothes officers tackled and restrained him.

Former second-year mining engineering student Fareed Wijdani has been charged with two counts of armed robbery and three weapons charges. He will also undergo psychiatric examination.

It was the conclusion of a tense morning for police, who were alerted to the suspect after he caught a cab to the university from his north-end home, bringing the shotgun with him. As the taxi approached his destination, the accused asked the driver to turn around. Police suspect that he was spooked by dialogue between the cab driver and his dispatcher.

The suspect allegedly pulled out a knife and robbed the cab driver then carjacked another man's blue Chevy Impala and returned to campus.

Simultaneously, police received a tip which suggested that the accused was heading to the university to "settle a score." They contacted campus security, who notified parking services. The vehicle was soon spotted by a parking services employee.

The man allegedly approached the Tory Turtle building with his gun under his arm and, according to bystanders, asked a student outside the doors for a cigarette.

Police did not find the accused until he returned to the car. They say they are uncertain whether he went inside any buildings or why he came back to the car.

> He was pretty quiet. He was kind of a loner. I'm not surprised – it just seems typical. You always hear about guys who lash out, really quiet guys who keep to themselves.
>
> *Derek Nivens, classmate*

But U of A vice-president of academics Doug Owram maintains that the accused "did not get into any buildings," though officials admit that they didn't know the man's whereabouts for the half-hour prior to the man's arrest.

When the university was notified at 11:30 a.m. to watch for the suspect, employees locked down six buildings, as well as several offices. People on campus whom security believed might be at risk were notified and evacuated.

"They called at about 12:10," recalled Dorte Sheikh, an assistant registrar in records who was notified by campus security. "They told me they were aware that there was an individual on campus who had abducted a personal car and had a shotgun."

Campus Security had the man's picture on file and friends of Wijdani say that he had been barred from campus in October.

Sheikh was identified as one of many possible targets because of her position as a contact for students who have been suspended or banned. After Sheikh received the warning, registrar's office staff closed down the front desk.

People who know Wijdani said he is quiet and keeps to himself.

"He was pretty quiet. He was kind of a loner. I'm not surprised – it just seems typical. You always hear about guys who lash out, really quiet guys who keep to themselves," said classmate Derek Nivens.

Staff Sergeant Dick Shantz, of the south-side police station, said Wijdani's arrest was a relieving end to a stressful situation.

"His intent was obvious by the fact that he had a weapon. He was coming for a purpose, and it could have been a shooting."

Shantz said police have searched Wijdani's house for further evidence.

Future of B.C.'s forests in question, say environmentalists

by Sarah Glen

VICTORIA (CUP) – A little-known B.C. government discussion paper is the "most blatantly anti-environmental law proposed in recent history," according to the Western Canada Wilderness Committee (WCWC).

The Victoria chapter is gathering together university students and other concerned Vancouver Island residents to demonstrate against the proposed legislation at a rally in March.

The discussion paper, put forward in February by Gordon Wilson, Minister of Forests, proposes a new Forest Land Reserve Act that would designate all public forest lands outside of provincial parks to be used only for logging.

"This is the pseudo-privatization of public lands that gives corporations even more control over our forests," said WCWC's forest campaigner Ken Wu, speaking to a crowd of mostly students at a conference held at the University of Victoria this past weekend. "Everybody must oppose this. There is going to be more conflict in the woods."

About 43 million hectares, or 92 per cent of B.C.'s forests, fall outside of provincial parks and would be designated "working forests" under this proposed legislation. "Working forests" is the term given to any forested land that falls outside of protected or agricultural areas.

"Working forests are an essential part of any economy," said Sue Stephan, director of the corporate policy and planning branch with the Ministry of Forests. "WCWC's concerns [over this proposed legislation] are unwarranted. This could help B.C. in the long run."

In the discussion paper where he outlines the new act, Wilson calls for a switch in provincial political mandates – from those concerned with the environment to those focused on the forest industry.

He maintains that after protecting 12 per cent of the province's environment, the government must "consider measures to address the certainty and security for our commercial forest lands and our forest sector," reads the report.

In order to establish "certainty and security" for the timber industry, a no net-loss policy will be worked into the proposed legislation. This policy would act as a trade-off of sorts, allowing the timber industry to log already protected areas if their loggable land is restricted in the future.

"This [no-net loss policy] is the biggest threat to existing and future protected areas," said Wu.

Beside the no net-loss policy, Wu also raises concerns over the impact of the proposed legislation on First Nation's land claims, which he reasons would strengthen the legal grounds for logging companies to claim compensation if their forest lands fall under a settled treaty.

This "threat" of compensation would chill the government's willingness to allocate valuable timber lands to First Nations, Wu said.

Because the act would have a fundamental impact on public lands, which are technically owned by all British Columbians, a 15-day-long electronic message board was set up on the Ministry of Forests web site to field comments from the public.

> This is the pseudo-privatization of public lands that gives corporations even more control over our forests.
>
> *Ken Wu, WCWC's forest campaigner*

Wu was hoping that a strong public outcry in the form of e-mail, telephone calls or letters will trash the act before the provincial legislature reconvenes for the spring session on March 14.

But he is organizing a demonstration in front of the legislature in case the legislation is still tabled.

The demonstration will coincide with a student walkout at the University of Victoria, University of British Columbia and Camosun College on March 16.

Sarah Metzgner, a UVic student involved with Forest Action Network, called the act "very scary."

"They're putting their foot down on the environment and threatening parks."

EDITORIAL:

Attention: Customer Service at go.com

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing in the hopes that this will land somewhere within your organization, preferably displayed upon the screen of a senior manager. I want you all to know that you have lost a customer. At first, I was upset because what was a very nice interface, back when it was infoseek.com, has degenerated into an advertisement-laden mouthpiece for your boss's boss's boss's board of directors.

I understand that you are under a mandate here – you have been acquired in yet another unpublicized takeover, and you must deliver profits to the people who oversee your overseers. But do you know who your overseers are?

Ultimately, your boss works for a company founded by a cartoonist named Walter Elias Disney. One day while riding the train in March of 1928, Walter drew a cartoon picture of a mouse named Mortimer. That September, Mortimer's name was changed to Mickey and he took a starring role in the first sound cartoon, the short film *Steam Boat Willie*.

Nine years later, Walter Disney enchanted audiences with *Snow White*, his first full-length film. He went on to create many more delightful and enchanting films, killing Bambi along the way. In 1955, Disneyland was officially opened and 10 years later the plans for Disneyworld were nearing completion. All looked so promising for Walter until his untimely demise from lung cancer in December of 1966.

A mere 29 years later and Walt Disney Co. purchased ABC (and all their related companies) for $19 billion. Two years later, in 1997, Walt Disney Co. cleared $24 billion in sales.

At around the same time, Infoseek Guide went public, a relatively little-known information and search service run by Steven Kirsch. In 1998 Disney bought up a 43 per cent share in the company. In November of 1999, 93 per cent of shareholders approved the purchase of infoseek.com, thus creating go.com, your current employer.

Go.com is housed under the larger umbrella of the Disney Internet Group (DIG), a company whose combined web properties represent a full 25 per cent of the world's web usage, attracting more than 21 million unique visitors per month. DIG's holdings include ABCNews.com, ESPN.com, Disney.com, as well as a technology known as "Enhanced TV." DIG also has interests in literally hundreds of other sites and services, including NFL.com, NBA.com, NASCAR and, in addition, manage Disney's direct marketing and online shopping.

All I wanted to do was search the Web! There are no web pages left in your company that have not been infiltrated by ads for your sister-sites and subsidiaries. This has gone too far, and I must sadly inform you that I must get off this crazy train.

I want you to know that this was not an easy decision for me to make. I have been using go.com in its various incarnations for a few years. I would complain when you changed the format, and your friendly staff would direct me to alternate pages that were advertisement-free. Now this is no longer the case.

I am boycotting you, Disney. I know what you're up to. Buying everything up like that. You sneaky devils. You're trying to control the information, aren't you? Cross-promotion of ESPN events on ABC and live coverage from Disneyland – I know what you're up to.
Well, you'll not make a monkey out of me.

Sincerely,

Jason Gondziola

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at editorial meetings, every Monday at noon in the SUB B011. Editorials are written by one or more staff members, and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff.

LETTERS:

SPUD sees change on the horizon
Now that the 2001 UVSS elections have ended, we, as representatives of the Students for Progressive Unified Democracy (SPUD) slate, want to extend our sincere congratulations to all of the winning candidates. The society faces a number of challenges in the upcoming year, but we are confident that the new board will have the dedication needed to work in the best interest of UVic students.

While everyone who took the time to vote in the elections deserves accolades, we want particularly to thank the vast number of students who supported the SPUD slate.

Though the campaign was a long and tiresome one, their encouraging comments and enthusiasm made it truly an enjoyable experience.

The extreme closeness of the results does send one vital message to the new board of directors. There is clearly a large number of UVic students who are tired of the old left/right divide of campus politics, and who long for a truly democratic and representative UVSS. The greatest challenge faced by the new board will be to ensure that the voice of these students is not ignored.

Keir D. Wilmut, Andrew McVie, Scott Hart

"Everybody hates me because I'm paranoid" – Independent "airing"
However much or little importance we attach to our image, it's still just image. My "image" is that of a burnt-out professor of the 60s – a homeless bum living on campus, dependent on UVic for whatever. It's all untrue, so let's not patronize each other.

The reason that I consented to be photographed for *the Martlet* article a couple of issues ago failed to include the sign in the window of what I refer to as "the little pentagon:" parking (38 acres) "was never so exciting since you were in high school" (retro 60s was never...)
I have communicated three times with Facilities Management and Jack Falk since his mandate began a couple of Septembers ago. Not once has he responded, nor even acknowledged, my correspondence. All three correspondences were accompanied by surreal scenarios. The two times, on two successive days, that I've met with Jack Falk were highlighted by:

I – his absolute "interpretation" of UVic as private property

II – his almost instant characterization of my belongings as "refuse"

III – his response to whether he calls himself an environmentalist "irrelevant"

Three bodies on campus of principal concern: the non-academic (property managers, security), CFUV, SUB.

Three bodies, eight days before the now three-week Tuesday barring me from university owned buildings, that I've requested an independent inquiry into!!!

Tuesday, March 13, a senior SUB official asks me to check in with the Services Director during the course of the day. From another source I learn that ongoing "staff" complaints suggest imposing conditions, even while indeterminate SUB "mediation" structure is "in place."

I allege that six years of abuse emanate from the non-academic sector, who by falsely claiming that I fall under their job description, have interfered with every aspect of my life, both on and off campus! On campus, contrary to the pretense of the University as neat, tidy, packaged, it has spilt heavily into the academic sector, directly attributable to actions emanating from the non-academic sector!

I'm being framed (persecuted) through reification (objectification). The roof's broken, it needs fixing – Peter's a pain in the ass, "conditions," if not outright banning, need to be imposed. While claiming that I'm being dealt with 'kid-gloves' compared to how much more severely the non-academic sector treats me; they divide and compromise student loyalties, invoking and insisting on "stacks" of "staff" complaints. Bureaucratic protocol and personal agendas confine and disadvantage me, both psychologically and physically!

The irony of the principal player of the now three Tuesdays ago "go at Peter," disavowing his own black and white memo, preventing me from recovering my "large amount of garbage-like material... found unattended in the Clearihue courtyard" placed between him and a utility driver, charging me entirely falsely with "camping out" in that room every week since January: at no time did campus security officers remove me so that any class could begin. Such a feeding frenzy to appropriate and trash exhaustively salvaged belongings constitutes theft. Deliberate dislocation, repeated violation and stripping away 'personal' security making me to appear awkward and irresponsible, similarly induces perceived "mistakes." Personnel, not the public, act with impunity under the immunity of the University, be this actionable criminally or civilly.

"Future" compliance and obscuring past distortions did little to deal with ongoing present reality. The University is a place of learning and adventure, combining education and the environment, not of control and programming, invalidating both education and the environment. Seven years of being the only person to do exclusively environmental programming at CFUV – 1993 to Aug 18, 2000 – have allowed me to:
(A) distinguish between "alternative" and "standards" either or neither THE prerogative of Management, not of "rank and file;"
(B) to affirm that communication, like the University, is a good idea.

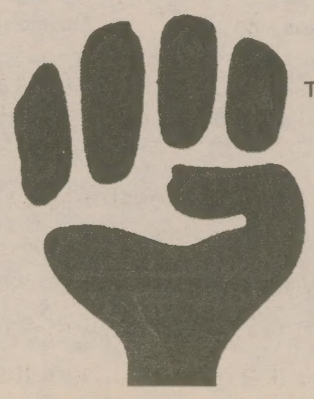
Now, more than ever, is the opportune moment to launch an independent inquiry! Failing which justice delayed is justice denied!

Peter Verin

Setting the record straight
In last week's letter to *the Martlet*, Dick Chappel wrote that I misquoted a memo he had posted to Facilities staff regarding Peter Verin. According to the internal memo I obtained, Chappel did write, "we had another go at Peter today." Just setting the record straight.

Jeff Werner

Editor's Note: the Martlet takes allegations of misrepresentation very seriously, but in this instance we stand behind our writer and his treatment of the facts in this story.



We have a right to information on global trade affecting us all.

If you're interested in research/writing on the upcoming Free Trade Area of the Americas summit, email us at martlet@uvic.ca or call 721-8361 and ask for Gillian.

[2000/2001]
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Letters: *the martlet* has an open letters policy and will endeavour to print every letter received from the university community, with priority given to undergraduate students. Letters must be typewritten, submitted on disk or by e-mail and include your name and student number for verification. Letters must be 200 words maximum.
Deadline for letters is noon on the Friday before publication date. Letters will be prioritized by order received. Letters with pseudonyms or group names will not be printed.

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MONOLOGUE:

The System People: Indispensible tools in the war against globalization

Hackers aren't all bad

by Jason Gondziola

Computer Hackers get a lot of bad press. They are often portrayed as the thugs of cyberspace, ready and able to seize your private information and do horrible things with it.

The fact of the matter is that hackers can provide extremely useful and relevant skills in the fight against increasingly large corporations. Hackers can perform two extremely important services to the anti-corporate cause: they can provide information unavailable through legal channels and they can gain access to corporate networks for the purpose of interfering.

In the more passive mode, hackers may gain entrance into networks and sift through the data to find information important to their cause. This can range from building plans to names and addresses of senior members. Hackers can also plant a program that would serve as a "bug" – transmitting information to another computer on the Internet.

Imagine this scenario: the FTAA protests will soon be a reality. How much more effective would the demonstrations be if the organizers of these protests were in possession of police information about how to handle the protesters, detailed itineraries and structural diagrams of buildings? Indeed, the very text of the FTAA itself could be netted by a skilled hacker.

Hackers can also actively exploit the increasing corporate dependence on computers – an Achilles heel of sorts. Just think back to the outbreak of the Melissa virus -– a deceivingly simple virus that did nothing more than replicate itself via email. This simple scripted program was so effective in propagating itself that it ground entire subnets of the internet to a halt. Microsoft was so bogged down by the garbage email generated by Melissa that they were compelled to shut down their mail servers for hours.

Using the FTAA scenario again, imagine the effect on the meetings if all of the computers were ground to a halt by a new and malicious virus. Or maybe the new virus could systematically delete the files of the organizers, making things very hairy indeed.

Such an act would cost the organizers of the event millions of dollars in time, not to mention the cost in data. This style of guerilla warfare is a radical step above simple protest or occupation of a building, this is a direct interference with the dataflow of an organization.

Indeed, one must be prepared to accept the legal risk in embarking upon such a mission. However, this risk is no different from the peaceful protester who accepts the risk of arrest for occupying a building in a show of resistance.

Hackers are more than the stereotypes proliferated by the mainstream media. They are not pencil necked, pocket-protector-wearing geeks. They are systems people, people who see greater patterns in the digital assemblages scattered around the surface of the globe. They are curiosity seekers-turned-active, and their skills can be utilized for a greater good.

SOAP BOX:

Claim the cunt:

If we aren't comfortable in our own bodies...

by Gillian Jerome

Vagina. Cunt. Muff. Pussy. Vulva. Clitoris. Labia majora. Ahhh. Go ahead. You can say it. It's not hard. Try it again. Slow this time. V-a-g-i-n-a. CUNT. Come on, strip down in front of the bedroom mirror, put on your red rubber boots and give it a guttural whirl.

Play back some Pointer Sisters. Strap on the gold stilettos and the boa. The Carhart pants and the steel toes. The leather bustier and the fish nets. Go girrrrrrl.

Reach in and pull out your house keys, your grandmother's railway spike, a photograph of yourself on the first day of school, your choice Under-Roos, the sound your first lover made when he came inside you. Or, the sweet, sweet taste on the tip of your girl lover's tongue. Reach deeper in for the pearls, the handcuffs, the fistful of garden dirt, the paper clip, the pine cone.

Here's a rallying cry for lost childhood bathtub odysseys, 1970s feminist cervix ceremonies and the neighbourhood how-to-get-to-know-your-vagina seminar. Magnificent Muff. Lascivious Labia. Vantastic Vagina. TuTu Two Lips. Beware. She's coming to a dinner party near you.

Sound a little over-the-top? Well, it seems that *the Martlet*'s choice of a medical illustration printed on page 11 of the last issue offended a group of ladies on campus. Apparently, the graphic is grotesque.

What I have to say is this: get over your cunt phobia girls.

While the Vagina-on-Display still ignites ire, phallus worship rages on: it's a history we can't seem to shake. Reverence for the Great Dick is everywhere. From Zeus to St. Augustine, Freud to Foucault, doodled on bathroom walls with a Jiffy Marker, raved about, measured, pleasured and pontificated upon: we love to love The Penis.

Ah. Try just once to show a little pussy and watch the world's reaction. Just ask Sharon Stone. That brave, red portal is potent enough to repulse us. Spread your legs before the mirror and blind yourself, turn your face to stone?

Vagina mythology is steeped in symbols suggesting male fear, from the vagina dentata (toothed vagina) to a sixteenth-century Arabian manuscript declaring that any man who looks deep into a woman's vagina will go blind.

Ancient myths are tough to shake. It's 2001 and a medical illustration printed above a review of the Vagina Monologues March 8 caused quivers here on campus. Every complainant was female.

Ladies, if we can't claim our cunts in this day and age, how can we expect gender paradigms to shift? We can't afford to fear our bodies when women the world over are still landless, persecuted and poor. Generations of women before us have worked too hard for us to digress

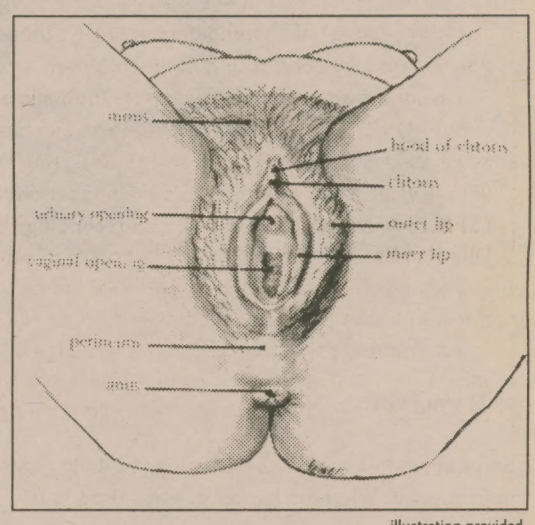


illustration provided

now. It's not timely, nor useful to crawl back into the closet and cross our legs.

Buy a vibrator. Call her Susie. Call her Yvette. Call her Leviathan. Lie in bed and have a conversation with your one and only. Invite her over for some chocolate fondue and a little hanky panky.

When she stares back at you from the printed page, say Hello Kitty. Whatever you do, chill out. She doesn't bite. So don't run screaming.

The Martlet is hiring

You too could work with someone as delightful as Darian

If you are interested in working for *The Martlet Publishing Society* as **Managing Editor,** please drop a résumé off at *the Martlet* office in B011 of the SUB building by 4:30 p.m. **March 15.** We will not accept résumés by fax or email.

For details call **Gillian or Meesha** at 721-8361. Drop by the office for a full job description.

Fee levy refund cheque dispersal is back – Thursday, March 15 noon-4:30 p.m.
Drop by the office (b011) , fill in a lengthy form explaining your reasoning + walk away with a hot, hot, hot cheque (of a portion of your student fees the Martlet receives) in your hot little hand.

catching cy
a honeypot fo

by Sheila Potter

Somewhere in world, a hacker is logging onto Noel's computer in Esquimalt. What the hacker doesn't know is that Noel is watching him.

The hacker logs in as Fone. Noel recognizes him; he keeps a diary of the activities of all of his hackers. He calls them his pets, better than the miniature keychain computer pets called Tamagotchi.

According to Noel, this particular hacker is not very bright. It took him days to figure out how to erase the log files to cover his tracks, something even amatuer hackers find easy.

Fone has logged in three times before, routing through machines all over the world (U.S., Korea and Canada), but he doesn't seem to know what to do now that he has access to Noel's machine. He hasn't even looked at the file Noel set up with the alluring name "passwords."

So, Noel has decided to give Fone a jolt to liven things up.

A message suddenly appears on Fone's screen: "Never drink coke in a moving elavator. The elevator's motion coupled with the chemicals in coke produce hallucinations."

This throws Fone. Much to Noel's amusement, Fone types in, "HAI LAR!'

Hai Lar is a Malaysian greeting used amongst hackers. Fone thinks that another hacker is talking to him. In reality, Noel has set up a simple computer program to display meaningless phrases. The phrases are churned out at random, but as luck would have it, they come out with a spooky coherence. Fone tries to list all of the programs that are running on the machine, but he doesn't detect anything out of the ordinary. Noel's program is hidden. In return for Fone's efforts, he gets another message.

"Hildebrant's Principle: If you don't know where you are going, any road will get you there."

Fone types, "HAI! WHAT DO YOU WANT ME ON HERE FOR?!?!?"

It's a good question. Noel has purposely set up this computer to lure in hackers, and then record everything that they do. In the computer security world, this is known as a honeypot. Noel's honeypot runs both Windows and Linux. It's hooked up to the Internet with a high-speed connection and no security bait as tempting as an unlocked car with the keys in the ignition.

Noel's honeypot has a serious side (Noel analyses the hacker's techniques to learn how to keep them out), but spitting out incoherent messages to hackers is just his way of taunting them. It's small revenge.

Noel Burton-Krahn is a freelance computer programmer who works out of his home in Esquimalt, while doing his master's degree in Computer Science at UVic. Before last October, he wasn't that concerned about hackers. Although his computer was connected to the Internet with a fast connection for long periods of time, he didn't have a fire wall, and he didn't download the latest security patches regularly.

Then, for two weeks in October, several hackers accessed Noel's computer. They set up shop, installing software and files, and using his machine to hack into other machines, including a bank in the Czech Republic. Finally, someone maliciously erased his hard drive.

"I felt like my house had burnt down," says Noel. "I kept thinking 'I'm going to wake up now.' I felt like that for a week."

Noel spends all day in his computer, building the code that supports his wife and two small kids; it stores all of his professional work as well as his school work. He lost everything from the previous three months, except for work that was backed up on his client's computers. "It was a week from hell," he says.

Worse, he had to call his clients and admit that he had been cracked, the hacker's term for gaining illicit access to a computer. Furthermore, he had to inform them that their systems might be compromised through passwords stored on his machine.

"I was definitely ready to send some punks to the penitentiary," he writes on his web site, which he has since created to share his new-found security knowledge.

Yet, when Noel went to the police, he was disappointed. "I think there are some people in Ottawa with computers," they told him when he asked if there was anyone at the RCMP with the computer knowledge to help him.

In fact, there is a Canadian Police Research Centre in Ottawa, affiliated with the RCMP, staffed by people developing tools to track down computer crimes. However, Noel was directed to corporate crimes in Vancouver where Constable Peter Werner took his statement. Noel never heard back from them. "The RCMP are totally unprepared to deal with the issue of cracking," he says.

It was his experience with police and Internet service providers that convinced Noel to change his Master's thesis from parallel processing to security. He is now known as a white hat in the security world, a term given to people who fight the black hats, or the hackers.

Indeed, the lack of action against hackers is leading many people to call the Internet a lawless community, where white hats are few and far between.

Corporal Ian Lawson, from the Victoria commercial crimes division of the RCMP, sometimes deals with local complaints about hackers, including the recent attack against CSP Internet. "Complaints about hackers are getting more common," he says. However, he admits that the RCMP don't really have the resources to deal with the issue.

To a certain extent, traffic on the Internet can be traced. It is possible to record an IP address from a computer that is communicating over the Internet. An IP address is a number, which identifies a computer when it is connected to the Internet.

To make sure no two computers have the same IP address, Internet service providers (like Shaw and CSP Internet) are given a specific range of IP addresses from InterNIC Registration Service. Every time a customer connects to the Internet via a service provider, the service provider assigns an IP address to the customer from their collection.

So, while it is possible to trace an IP address to a service provider, it is difficult to know which of their customers is behind the computer screen. This becomes less difficult if the service provider keeps a log of which of their customers is assigned an IP address at all times.

According to Lawson, there in increasing pressure for service providers to keep this sort of record. "There is a move to have international regulations that would force service providers to hold on to their data for one year."

Still, Lawson says he's not confident that this will make much of a difference, saying that it is hard to get the evidence to convict. "Say I trace an IP address to your house, then what?" he asks. "Then you say there are 10 different people with access to this computer."

To make matters more complicated, the hacker will go through one or more intermediate computers, known as zombies. In Noel's case, the hackers launched attacks through his computer, so that the trail initially led back to him, instead of the hacker.

ybervandals: r hackers

In fact, Noel suspects that the person who wiped out his files was a victim who retaliated, mistaking his computer for the hacker's. He traced two IP addresses with access to his machine shortly before his files were erased. One was from the Credit Lyonnais Bank in Prague, Czech Republic, who says that they were simply examining the machine that was attacking them. The other IP address belonged to a computer in Israel, who has not replied to Noel's e-mail, questioning what they were doing on his computer.

This cross border action is part of the problem. Explains Lawson, "You can't extradite for an Internet crime which only caused $100,000 worth of damage. Extradition is only for very serious crimes."

Lawson directs people who have lost files from their home-based system to the RCMP's technological crime section in Vancouver, but they are often too busy retrieving encrypted records from computers confiscated from organized crime. "We try to do it ourselves," says Lawson, adding that he is often too busy himself with bankruptcy and fraud cases worth millions of dollars.

Still Noel is convinced something more could be done. He feels that if service providers kept track of customers who had been hacked, they could block traffic coming from the offending IP addresses. "Recording IP addresses is a new concept," he says.

"Monitoring traffic and shutting it down is definitely the solution," says Ray Freeman, the vice-president of business development for Presinet, a new Victoria company that sells an Internet security service to businesses.

For $100 a month, Presinet will act as a private Cyber Squad for small to mid-sized companies who have a lot to lose from a security breach. They monitor traffic coming to their clients computers. They also set up a firewall between the service provider and the business network. Then they scan the traffic that reaches the firewall for port sniffers or unusual patterns of activity that might indicate an attack.

They use the data they collect to constantly update the fire walls and deny access to hackers, but they also trace the activity back to IP addresses to collect data for the RCMP. Freeman says that they are currently negotiating to share information with police in Hong Kong.

Although he cautions that hackers might be after credit card numbers or social security numbers, he says, "The majority of hackers are script kiddies with scanning tools," repeating the common wisdom of those in the security field. Script kiddies are clumsy hackers who are not very knowledgeable. They use prefabricated hacking tools that they download from the Internet. They often don't have a motive other than the challenge of getting in.

This has been the experience of Gary Duncan, the system administrator for the UVic engineering network. "Our computers have been cracked," he admits. "But I don't think they've done anything bad. They were just trying to get in."

"You could spend your whole time worrying about security. I can't keep up with all of the security patches," he says, but neither is he too concerned. "Our stuff is not that critical, so you have to balance things out." However, he is quick to add that a firewall is in the works.

Sometimes hackers can be mindlessly malicious. John Harley, a senior software engineer at ACD Systems, a Victoria-based software company, says his Windows 95 system was cracked a few years ago. An ordinary home system, the only thing to put him at risk was his high speed ASDL Internet access.

Suddenly he got a blue screen and an error message he did not recognize. The computer had crashed and every time he rebooted, the computer would crash five minutes later. Harley had been "nuked," the hacker term for sending data to a computer with the sole intention of crashing it. "I was in this weird race against a piece of code," he says.

Luckily, between crashes, Harley was able to identify the type of attack, and download some software from the Internet to block the destructive code.

Harley traced the attack to IP addresses to Korea and Bulgaria, and figured that there was no point in registering a complaint. "I felt like you would if someone bent your car and walked away," he says. "It's not life threatening, but there is a feeling of violation."

Harley now uses ZoneAlarm, a $40 piece of software, which notifies the user when someone is trying to access the computer through an unauthorized program, and shuts the hacker out. He says he is also more vigilant in visiting the Microsoft site and downloading the latest Window's security patches.

As for Noel, he doesn't think people should be resigned to this cyber vandalism. He religiously records the IP addresses of all of his pet hackers and sends off notes to their service providers to let them know that one of their customers is a hacker. He is also analyzing hacker tools, and searching for security holes.

Meanwhile he feels vindicated. The motive of hackers is always a source of speculation, but part of it is a cerebral machismo, an "I'm more technologically sophisticated than you are" attitude. Noel's honeypot should take them down a notch.

••••

If you computer is cracked, chances are you will be blamed for not being sophisticated enough.

Yet, in the last six months, hackers have embarrassed some high-profile companies. In October, hackers had access to computers at Microsoft for 12 days. The hacker's motive may have been to steal or corrupt the code for Microsoft's applications, leaving some people worried that anyone using Microsoft products will be vulnerable to security holes in the future.

In December, hackers cracked into Creditcards.com, a business that works with Web merchants so they can accept credit card payments. The hackers copied 55,000 credit card numbers, and then tried to extort money from the company in exchange for not publishing the numbers on the Web. The company did not comply, and the numbers were published.

In these American cases, the FBI's Cyber Squad was called out to help, a name reminiscent of tv show *Level 9*'s fictional FBI division, Level 9.

Victoria has not been left out of the action. In November, thousands of people who buy Internet access from CSP Internet, received a letter explaining interruptions to their Internet service. CSP Internet had shut down their systems to protect security. They had been cracked, apparently from a Romanian Internet café, a crime serious enough to warrant an ongoing investigation involving the RCMP, the FBI and Interpol.

"If hackers can break into the Pentagon and Microsoft, it seems there is no safety in this world," wrote CSP Internet in a letter to their clients.

have your two cents

Dear Members,

We are looking to receive feedback from all undergraduate students at UVic on the work of the UVic Students' Society. Please clip and fill out the survey below and return it to the Resource Centre or place it in one of the feedback boxes attached to the Students' Society notice boards. Your comments will provide important direction to the Students' Society, and we appreciate your taking the time. Please feel free to attach any additional feedback.

Did you know you are a member of the Canadian Federation of Students?

YES **NO**

What do you think the Canadian Federation of Students does?

Did you know that you are a member of the UVic Students' Society (UVSS) ?

YES **NO**

What do you think the UVic Students' Society does?

What do you think the Board of Directors of the Students' Society does?

What more should they do?

Did you vote in the recent Students' Society elections?

YES **NO**

Why or Why not?

What additional services do you think the Students' Society should provide?

Are there any advocacy issues or campaigns you feel the Students' Society is not currently addressing?

Have you ever attended a Students' Society event?

YES **NO**

What did you like or dislike?

FACULTY: **YEAR OF STUDY:**

UVSS

deadline for submission: April 6th, 2001

CFS FCE

BLOOD ON THE DANCE FLOOR

Notes from the Michael J. Fox fan club

by Craig Battle

Last night I had my first Michael J. Fox dream. It took place in a strange beach hotel. Apparently gangsters were running a numbers operation out of the laundromat in the basement, and Michael J. and I (the same person in the dream) went in there to bust it up, guns ablazing.

See, the fact that I dreamt about Michael J. isn't surprising. The man, who I like to call the real King of Pop, spends at least one night (approximately two hours) in my living room each week. It's a one-sided relationship and he does most of the talking, although I do cheer him on regularly.

But I'm not the only Fox fanatic out there. You'd be surprised how many others share my interest in the man. (You never know – you might even be one of them.) Therefore, we created a night in his honour. Every Wednesday night this semester has been highlighted by a new J. Fox film. Hence the name, J. Fox Wednesdays.

It started late spring semester last year. Bored, my friend Drew and I went out one Wednesday night to rent a bad 80s film. We pondered *Can't Buy Me Love* and *The Breakfast Club* but ultimately decided on the cream of the crop, *Back to the Future* (*BTTF*).

The next Wednesday produced similar results. We looked passed such classics as *Fast Times at Ridgemont High* and *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* and *The Karate Kid*, straight to *Teen Wolf* – the beautiful tale of a boy and his spastic body hair.

Then the summer hit me like a piece of drift wood and pressed me out to sea. Alas, I ended up at a website in Vancouver for eight months and didn't return to Victoria until January. Within the first week back, Drew and I revived the Fox.

We haven't missed a Wednesday yet. My roommate Mark jumped on as soon as he got back from Christmas vacation, and we've seen a few regulars come in and out as well. J. Fox Wednesday is now a weekly event – an homage to the greatest Canadian actor there ever was, bar none.

Over the past two and a half months we've watched ten J. Fox feature films. It started with *Back to the Future III*, the weak link but nonetheless spectacular culmination of the vastly underrated trilogy. Then we delved into the darker portion of his career, *Bright Lights, Big City*, my personal favourite of the season – the teaming of Michael J., Keifer Sutherland and "Bolivian marching powder" was sheer genius.

We then picked up *For Love or Money*, admittedly his weakest romantic comedy except for the stray scenes where Michael J. drives around in a limousine with a giraffe sticking out the sun roof.

After a few steady weeks J. Fox Wednesdays became a given. Wednesdays no longer belonged to those of us involved. They belonged to J. He owned them and each week it was only a question of form.

Would he be a spiritual con man like in *The Frighteners*? Or perhaps a young, idealistic soldier opposite Sean Penn in the Vietnam war as in *Casualties of War*? And what about the cocky, self-centred actor he portrayed in *The Hard Way*? J. Fox can play anything, do anything, go t any lengths. As he once said in an interview, "Pain is temporary. Film is forever." Amen, brother.

In the last month, however, we've really got into the goods. *Back to the Future II*, followed by *The Secret of My Success*, followed by *Teen Wolf* (again, because there's nothing mor poignant than a girl-crazy, basketball playing werewolf) and topped with *The American President*.

After a while, inevitably, we starte noticing patterns. For example, did you know that he appears in only his underwear in nearly every film? The proposed hypothesis on the topic is that J. Fox was an unreported North American sex symbol in the mid 80s (which is not altogether unlikely).

As well, over the course of the semester I've developed a Film Studies course on J. Fox films. Here are some themes and lectures I've proposed: "Back to the Future, Foreshadowing and the Inevitable Apocalypse;" "The Darker Side of Michael J. in the Late Eighties;" and "Michael J., Androgyny and the Phallus." But I digress.

In a way, I'm kind of worried about myself. I've started reeling down that long road of addiction. But there is no methodone, no patch for a J. Fox addiction, and pretty soon I'm going to run out of the drug. There isn't enough film to kee me going. (*Spin City* doesn't count – it's too hard to look at Michael J. in his "final" role.) If only someone would wake up and rerelease the complete *Family Ties* collection. All would be saved.

Keifer Sutherland Wednesdays have been proposed for next semester. As have Steve Buscemi Tuesdays and Michael Rappaport Thursdays, but frankly, nothing compares to Michael J.

US war on Central America told by one man's story

Documentary Film Review
The Man We Call Juan Carlos
Asterisk Productions

"We are the keepers of the flame of Liberty and as such we, as Americans, offer support both morally and materially for all those on God's earth who struggle for freedom."
- Ronald Reagan, 1984

Using both archival film and still photographs, Canadian documentary film makers Heather McAndrew and David Springbelt tell the life story of charismatic Mayan leader Wenceslao Ramira. The film follows his journey from a poor mountain village in Guatemala where he turns sparse land into a thriving co-operative to his clandestine stint in the jungle fighting both his government's army and the United States at the peak of Guatemala's civil war.

This personal narrative juxtaposes the relatively privileged lives of the film-makers' with the history of the peasant struggle in Guatemala.

Anyone grappling to understand the link between global trade and repression of developing countries should see the film, a powerful glimpse at the devastating manifestations of Reagan's military support in South and Central America during the "war on communism." It implicates the multinational United Fruit Company in buying up the best crop land to garner profit unseen by the Mayan workers paid a pittance to work their own land.

The film succeeds at crediting Ramira and the Mayan people in their struggle to steward their own land in a country with a legacy of indentured farming since the Spanish Conquest. Partnered with an American Christian aid group called World Neighbours, Ramira organizes his village into a thriving co-op which threatens the government and leads to the American-backed Scorched Earth campaign of the 1980s in which hundreds of villages were levelled and burned by the military.

Once a peaceful teacher, Ramira leaves his family and the community he built to take arms against a heavy-handed military regime. The film makers tape a rare interview with Ramira while working with guerrillas in the jungle during the coup – an interview for a film Canada can't find funding for in 1980s.

The fate of Ramira's children, abducted and killed by the army while staying at a city "safe house," provides a dramatic and moving climax which shifts Ramira's path back home. Ten years later Ramira works as a Mayan advisor for negotiations between the government and the guerrillas. Rejected by his wife for his militancy he returns to the mountains, studies for the Mayan priesthood and starts another family.

An apology from the Clinton government in March 1999 for complicity in the civil war provides a gruesome irony for a country which continues to "help" developing nations with foreign aid while funding and training their militaries to destroy their people.

The film maker's personal narrative is a self-conscious one, noting how the first clips of the film sent to Ramira in the 1960s empowered the peasants who heard their own language on film for the first time while it signalled the Guatemalan army to pay attention to Ramira's reform.

The Man We Call Juan Carlos *play March 23 at UVic's Centre for Teaching, Room 105, at 7:30 p.m. Cal 480-5256 for more info.*

Hip-hop and techno take over the rock block

by Kevin Groves

Nick Blumberg never thought that he would contribute to a shift in popular music when his radio show *Energy Flash* began airing last February, but he's glad to see it happen.

Soft spoken and humble to talk to in person, the 21-year old computer science student, who goes by the name "Nick Gurns" in the party world, says that the mandate of his radio show is to provide quality electronic music to the public.

"Every week I'll try to bring in a different dj to the studio. If you're a frequent listener, you'll get to hear all sorts of stuff, including techno, trance, house, breaks and drum n' bass."

Energy Flash is a weekly electronic music show on CFUV, playing on Thursday nights from 12:30 a.m. to 3 a.m. The djs who spin on the station represent the main genres of electronica, but Blumberg says that anyone skilled with the turntable is welcome to play on his show.

"I try to showcase local dj talent, and give up-and-coming djs a chance to show off their skills. Djs love to play on the show, I've never really had a problem getting people on."

The talent that Blumberg has brought in can range far afield as well, including members from the Moontribe Collective, a group of Techno djs from Los Angeles, including dj Brian and Treavor.

Blumberg said that *Energy Flash* has been quite successful in the last year, especially after taking over from *Really Good Music* in June 2000, a former radio show at CFUV, which had a similar electronica program.

When asked for the reason his show has been such a success, Blumberg credits a growing electronic music listener base, a change he is glad to see.

"It's really an exciting time in the electronic music community here in Victoria," he says. "A lot more people out there are starting to appreciate the kind of music we play, and underground dance music is getting a lot more play in clubs. *Energy Flash*'s success lies in people knowing they can tune in to the show and hear quality music they don't normally get on the radio."

CFUV Program Director Randy Gelling agreed with Blumberg, and expressed a similar sentiment on the changing tastes of listeners.

With on-going requests for distinctive shows for genres like reggae, hip hop, jazz and folk, Gelling said that the shows are becoming "more diverse" and that the success of *Energy Flash* can be attributed to this growing tendency among listeners to enjoy a wider variety of musical styles.

According to CFUV's 1999 programming policy, a growing dissatisfaction was beginning to show itself among programmers with the classification of genre blocks, particularly the "rock" blocks.

This brought about the question of whether specialized shows in emerging forms of popular music, such as hip-hop and techno, should be included in the rock block .

"Mostly they hadn't been," says Gelling. "Even though among teenagers these kinds of music were equally, if not more popular as rock music was 10 years ago."

Action was eventually taken to eliminate the distinction between "Specialty," "Rock," and "Latenight" blocks, to allow for greater diversity, flexibility and movement in these areas of programming, and the use of "rock" as a catchall for all forms of popular youth culture was discontinued.

Gelling went on to indicate that the future of underground and popular music is in genres like techno and hip-hop.

Since punk rock has been largely absorbed into the mainstream through diluted bands like Blink 182 and Green Day, Gelling says that many people have been turning towards hip-hop and electronic dance music instead.

photo provided

Blumberg opens airwaves to electronica.

"Basically, people today are much more eclectic in their tastes than 10 years ago."

Energy Flash's success continues to be an indication of this transition toward more variety in listener preference, and Blumberg is quick to indicate that the future of his show is a bright one.

"I have no plans on stopping any time soon. The enthusiasm I've received from djs, the music community and listeners, has all been overwhelming. I'm happy to be a part of this fabulous electronic music scene we have in Victoria."

Caribbean carnival to hit UVic: Happy music, happy feet

by Ben Hadaway

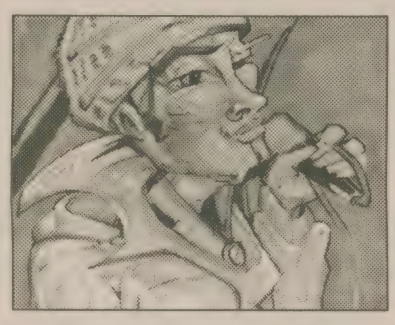
It isn't often that music can be described as "upbeat reggae and jazz meets the Beatles," but Caribbean Super Stars Steel Band weaves these styles together seamlessly.

Hailing from Trinidad and America, the Caribbean Super Stars have traveled extensively throughout the United States and Canada. This year the Super Stars will play at Carnival, their third visit to Victoria.

In the past, the Caribbean Super Stars ignited audiences at the Victoria Jazz Festival.

"We do a good job and they keep calling us back," said Albert Chiddick, Super Stars' steel drum player and group founder.

Chiddick created the Super Stars in 1976, after playing in hotels in the Virgin Islands. He is the group's only musical arranger, and is responsible for teaching the five other members



how to play their instruments. Chiddick formed the group with a love for the upbeat, Caribbean music and a desire to take his act on the road for a wide variety of audiences.

The Super Stars sound is influenced by everything from jazz to rock n' roll, with covers of old Beatles tunes like "Norwegian Wood" and "As Tears Go By" from the Rolling Stones, alongside reggae classics with an lively calypso feel.

"We try to play tunes that suit the steel drums," said Chiddick. "We'll take a Beatles tune and put it into reggae and up the tempo. People love it."

Caribbean Super Stars rhythm player and manager Debbie Hensley describes their sound as "Happy music at its ultimate best." She has been with the group for twelve years and says that the Caribbean Super Stars' appeal is that they have something for everybody.

"We play a good variety of music," Hensley said. "Everything from reggae to bolero, and we can take a recognizable song and play it in calypso."

Carnival is based on the 200 year-old tradition in Trinidad that has now spread to over 100 cities and countries across the world. The Carnival produces the music of calypso and the steel drum, which is the staple instrument of the Caribbean Super Stars' musical stylings. Aside from the steel drums, the Caribbean Super Stars also play the congas, tap drums, and a powerful rhythm section. Their sound is full, catchy and lends itself perfectly to the festive Carnival atmosphere.

"We get a vibe off people dancing," said Hensley, describing the interaction between the group and its audiences. "We play harder when people get into it."

Also appearing at Carnival is Kia Kadiri & Ndidi Cascade, dj Nature Boy, and the 2000 Vancouver Island Technics/DMC champion dj Verse, who has recently performed with such hip-hop stars as Jeru the Damaja, the Rascalz and Kardinal Offishal.

Caribbean food and tropical drinks will be available at this all-ages show, so get ready for a musical night of reggae, soca, calypso and hip-hop.

The Caribbean Super Stars will play at the UVic Michele Pujol Room on March 17. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and tickets are available in advance at Ditch, Complex, Lyle's, A&B Sound and the UVic SUB.

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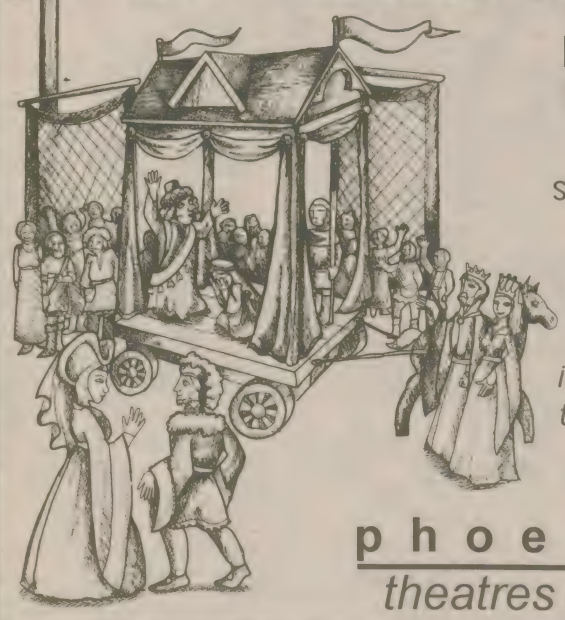

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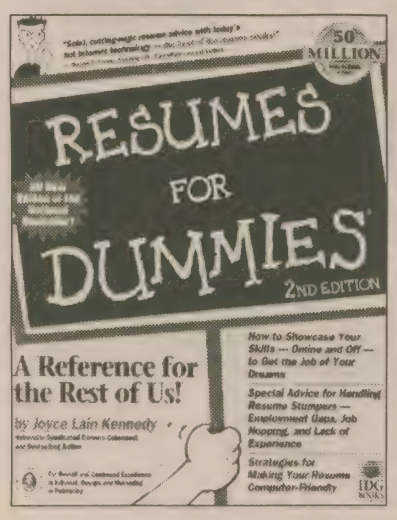
Idiots, dummies and the utterly bewildered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IDG BOOKS

by Julius Davies

Dan Gookin is not by any means a household name, despite his best efforts: he has written a few failed one-acts, one book on parenting (with his wife), and – ack! – over 80 books on computers, thick books, all. A fair swath of his books have been published in IDG's infamous *For Dummies* series, and yet, still, only a select few million people would recognize his name at the drop of a hat.

Let's change that.

Mesdames et messieurs, I present to you the story of the birth of the pivotal, the earth-shattering, the brain defying: *Dos for Dummies*. *Dos For Dummies*, in an innocent turn of alliteration, would change a nation. *Dos For Dummies*: the very book that started the "for dummies" madness. Nine years later: 40,000 web pages, zillions of newspaper articles, essays and columns, and a staggering 90 million books for the less-than-bright.

The Dummies phenomenon has definitely caught hold. These days, a funny joke is effortlessly created by simply stringing the words "for dummies" on the tail end of any verb or noun: American Electoral Process for Dummies. *Beer for Dummies*. (An actual title!) It all started in 1990 with Gookin's first stint at educating the non-computer literate.

"Dummies is insulting. When I wrote *Dos for Dummies*, I figured that I would piss off about 10 percent of the readers. So I set out to piss them off, figuring that the other 90 per cent would truly enjoy it. And they did!" Gookin's flair with prose has previously landed him in some hot water.

"So, I've offended PETA. That was easy. The famous 'Cat Recipe' thing from *WordPerfect for Dummies* was way overblown, but IDG crumbled under the pressure of ONE letter out of 700,000 copies sold. Recently my phrase 'Jesus Saves' has been in and out of the books. The original editor pulled it out because it would offend Atheists. Now it's going to be pulled because some Bible Thumper thinks I'm making fun of Jesus. Whatever. Humour is offensive."

Surprisingly, the Dummies prose style that is all Gookin's is the same style which persists in those books to this day. No one actually envisioned a franchise. It was just one catchy yellow book with some catchy funny prose; essentially, it was like any other book by Gookin, except with a spiffier title.

"I remember driving in [CEO] John Kilcullen's car in San Mateo and how he fretted about an upcoming 50,000 copy print-run of *DOS for Dummies*, and how he feared there would be 50,000 books in his garage for the rest of his life. No one else had faith in the book. So only after that 50,000 print run sold out – and sold swiftly – did they begin to think of exploiting it as a series. *Macs for Dummies* was the second book."

"It was supposed to be one book and one book only. Believe me, had I been hired to found a series, I'd be getting a piece of every book sold. That's not the case. Only after *DOS for Dummies* was a secure success did IDG franchise the thing.

"Since then, a medium-sized forest has been sacrificed in the name of Dummies religion. The yellow bad boys proudly proclaim on their covers these days that there are 90 million others just like 'em. It's a staggering number, persuasive, as we (the hapless book buyers) are generally more accustomed to Oprah's Book Club and its mere single-digit millions."

These days, the series is popular because it's popular. The Dummies are on par with McDonald's, or that old awful unofficial slogan of IBM: "No one ever got fired for buying an IBM."

For IDG, this popularity-breeds-popularity was not always the case. In the beginning, a *For Dummies* book was almost a sure bet: practically guaranteed to be one of the best in its subject – and readable! At one point they did earn their good reputation.

"Originally, IDG did go after the best writers in the field." This situation didn't last too long. "When pressure mounted to get more and more Dummies books out there, IDG was basically hiring warm bodies to write the books. The quality suffered. The IDG editorial staff suffered because the onus fell on them to beat the Dummies style (essentially my own style) into every book. Eventually the author didn't matter to IDG. Around 1997 or so IDG simply started slapping yellow covers on any book just to increase sales.

"This is very unfortunate. As a writer, I can understand IDG's fervour for the yellow covers. There is a lot of resonance in the words "for dummies." What began its life as an innocent alliteration – dos, dummies – actually carries a subtle political message. And a powerful one: a cry against elitism. For me, the Dummies series was always about this – we're not stuffy, we're not official, but we know our stuff.

Especially winning was Gookin's derision for the microsoft DOS programmers – "now why the hell they do things like this, I don't know."

That message may be lost and trampled in today's *For Dummies* books, but originally, under Dan Gookin's pen, with his humour and colloquial approach, it was a reclamation of knowledge. Ironic, since the new Dummies books, written in a rude imitation of Gookin's original philosophy, usually have some celebrity's name attached (Dr. Ruth, Patrick McEnroe, etc.) How very far from the original idea, for celebrities are the ultimate elite: elite for no other reason than their existence, and thus all the more untouchable. For Dummies used to mean "for people." Now it merely means, like everything else these days, "for money."

Atwood: politics and old age

by Matt Ferguson

WOLFVILLE (CUP) – After a four-year hiatus, one of Canada's most prominent writers has returned to the country's literary scene.

At 60, Margaret Atwood remains to be a top figure in Canadian literature. Her latest book, the *Blind Assassin*, won the Governor General's Award for literature and the highly coveted Booker Prize.

In a country that often struggles to provide evidence of a cultural export industry in face of the juggernaut of Americana, Canadians increasingly look toward a collection of successful literati for cultural definition.

"It's because we're old," jokes Atwood. "At our age and stage we've achieved the status of gurus and that's very hard to do when you're 20 because nobody will believe you. Even if you think you've got the truth people will not actually believe you because you're not old enough. Mind you, when you get too old then they will dismiss everything you say because they think you're senile."

Atwood says this is partially due to the disparity between Canadian and US cultural and entertainment industries. Because of the comparative lack of cultural icons, greater emphasis is placed on the achievements of Canadian authors. "I think writing is one thing that you can do in this country that doesn't cost too much money. A writer needs basically a space, a writing implement and some paper, that's it. You don't need to spend $30 million dollars."

Atwood should know. The Booker Prize is Britain's top award for literary genius. Having already been nominated four times, she finally triumphed with the *Blind Assassin*. In 1992, Michael Ondaatje was a co-winner with Barry Unsworth – Atwood is the first Canadian to win the Booker outright.

Characteristically aloof, Atwood downplays the importance of literary awards, yet recognizes the significance they hold for some. "I think it means a lot to a lot of Canadians," she says of her win, but allows, "I was deeply surprised, and then I was thrilled."

After a writing career that's spanned over 30 years, Atwood has

photo provided

not only had the opportunity to explore remote parts of the country, but also to experience Canada from abroad. Despite what many see as the fragmentary effect of Canadian regionalism, Atwood believes to be an issue of equal relevance in other countries.

"There is a much greater difference between, say, somebody from Texas and somebody from Minnesota than there is between somebody from the Maritimes and somebody from the West Coast. The kinds of social values that Canadians actually share are much more together than you might think."

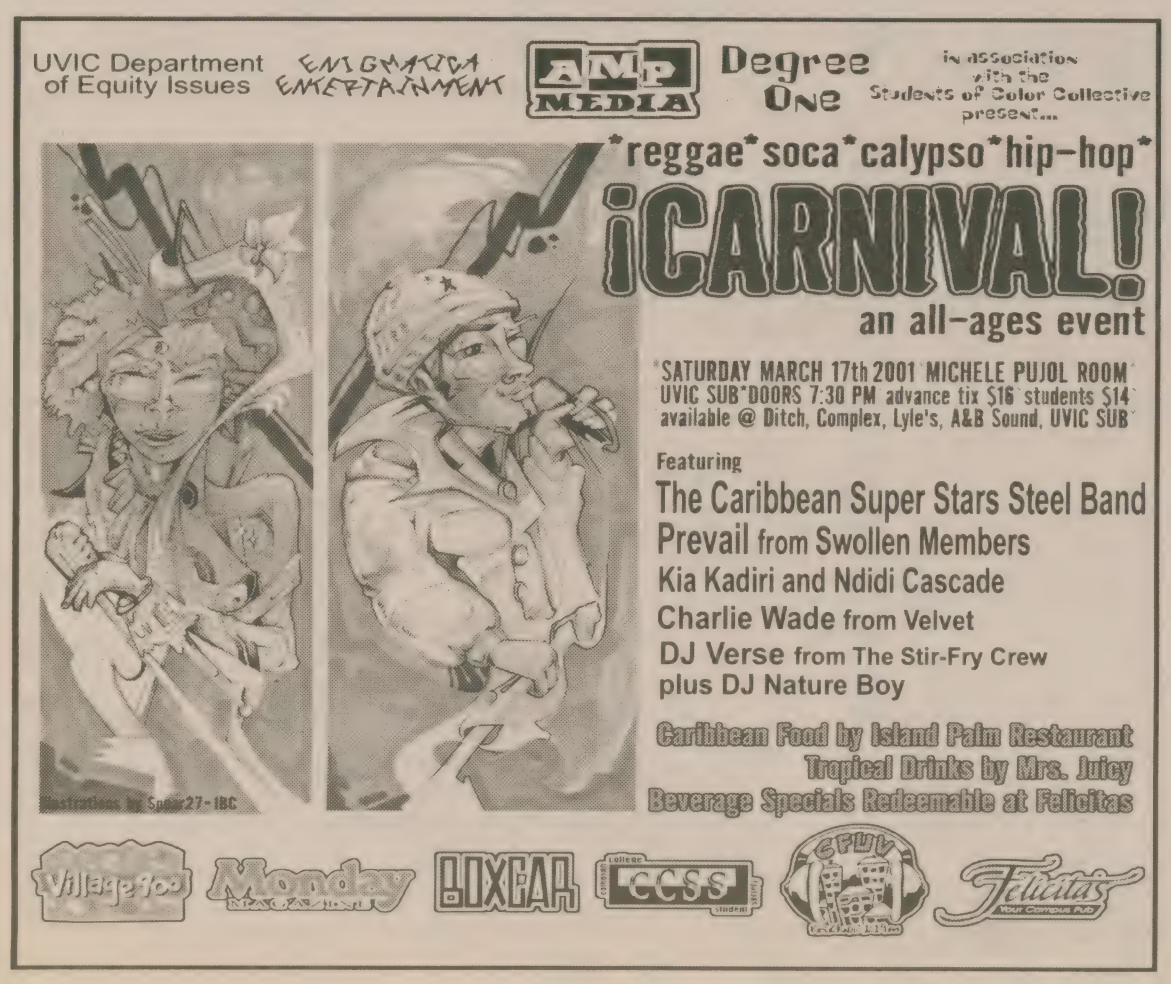
Atwood adopts a similar attitude when considering Canadian identity. While many remained concerned over the status of national unity and the difficulty to determine authentic Canadian characteristics, Atwood says similar issues are concerns for other countries.

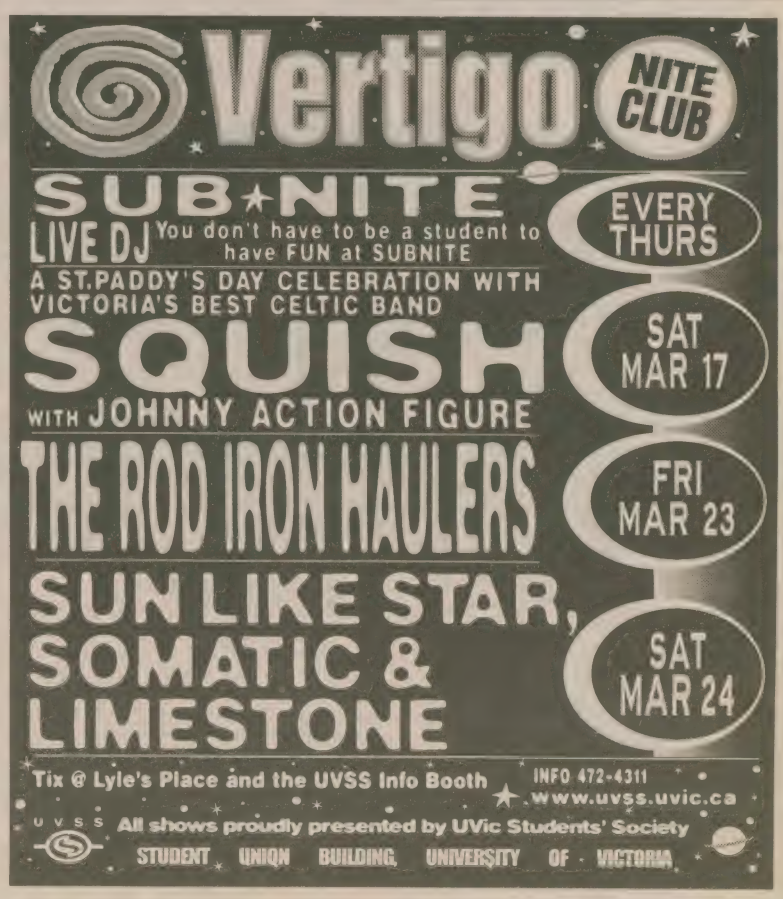
"My experience traveling abroad leads me to believe that all countries now are in flux. They've all been hit by globalization, they've all been hit by immigration levels of various kinds... and they're all going 'Who are we really?' It's just that Canada started a little earlier. Regionalism has been there ever since Confederation. It's not new."

And neither are Atwood's relentless efforts to craft her next work.

errata

Miranda Post would like to let the world know that Stephany Mathias is a Pisces with an Aquarius moon and a Sagittarius rising.

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Pale Slim: Things are bad when even the white guy gets angry

by Emmanuel Raymundo

Rap gangsta Eminem has been vilified more than SUVs and Canadian Alliance members.

Noted cultural critic bell hooks argues that blaming black youth for the misogyny and violence in gangsta rap is misguided, as it further demonizes young black males.

Instead of conveniently attacking this group, hooks insists the issue must be contextualized, and argues that "the sexist, misogynist, patriarchal ways of thinking and behaving that are glorified in gangsta rap are a reflection of the prevailing values in our society, values created and sustained by white supremacist capitalist patriarchy."

Instead, criticism must be thrown at the system that breeds this shit. I agree with hooks on this portion of the argument. However, hooks was writing about gangsta rap in the mid-1990s when it referred to groups like 2LiveCrew, Public Enemy and NWA as well as individual artists like Ice Cube and Ice T – in other words, "black" rappers.

My question is: what does it mean when it is not just black men but white men making the violence, the misogyny, the nihilism of gangsta rap? Then again is Eminem white?

Back when he was just known as Marshall Mathers, Eminem grew up poor in the largely black inner-city neighbourhoods of Detroit. Class seems to be the common denominator between the pale Slim and his black predecessors. Eminem may have white skin but speaks of the experiences of the poor – who are both black and white though often overwhelmingly portrayed as black.

"Black" is still contentious terrain marked with essentialism: "I am black because I have black skin and because my mom and dad are black and my grandma and grandpa are black," etc, etc. Without context, such a definition confines black identity to physical markers such as skin colour. This negates the constellation of various historical, social, political and economic forces which both define black skin as inferior and deploy black identity as inferior to white identity. Race politics has trumped class politics in the US and disabled the possibility of mass class-based movements since blacks and whites are fed the idea that their differences are based on skin colour, while their similarity in financial class positions are glossed over.

Poverty can belong to anyone regardless of racial or cultural categories. What is evident in Eminem's music is the effect of class inequality and the kind of shit white supremacist capitalist patriarchy can breed: violence, homophobia, misogyny, hatred.

When 2LiveCrew were drawing heavy fire for *As Nasty As They Wanna Be* back in the early 90s, prominent black leaders were standing shoulder to shoulder with small C-conservative leaders and Republican politicians like Senators Jesse Helms, Orrin Hatch, Bob Dole and then-education director William Bennett.

C. Dolores Tucker campaigned vehemently against 2LiveCrew everywhere from *Larry King Live* to *CNN* to *Donohue*. Henry Louis Gates Jr., Harvard University professor and now Director of Harvard's Afro-American Studies Program, testified before a Senate Judiciary Committee on the negative impact of gangsta rap which had the subsequent effect of vilifying young black males.

With Eminem, most of the criticisms are emerging from white leaders in particular, and conservative organizations. In the US, anti-Eminem campaigners have ranged from Lynne Cheney, wife of US Vice-President Dick Cheney

My question is: what does it mean when it is not just black men but white men making the violence, the misogyny, the nihilism of gangsta rap?

to Michael Greene, president of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (the people who hand out the Grammy's) and GLAAD (the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation) who protest against Eminem's homophobia.

In Canada, Ontario Attorney General Jim Flaherty and Consumer and Commercial Affairs Minister Bob Runciman tried to get Canadian immigration officials to stop Eminem at the border.

Conservative-minded politicians have always been concerned with the (as Harvard professor Cornel West terms it) "Afro- Americanization of white youth." Indeed, it is this fear that prompted the move to censor gangsta-rap with warning labels in the early 90s. Growing up in largely black neighbourhoods, Eminem embodies the demeanor usually attributed to black males – the street vernacular, the stylized swagger and the hyper-masculinity which usually entails the denigration of women and gay men. Eminem seems to chip away at the notion of an authentic blackness belonging only to those with black skin. One line of thought posits that gangsta rap – the anger, violence and misogyny it contains – is essentially a black male thing. Very troubling, indeed, when a white rapper like Eminem spews the same shit out as black gangsta rappers, thereby exploding the myth of essentialism which says black men as have a natural predisposition towards violence and misogyny. Eminem's lyrics also serve as a probable barometer for the kind of disaffection bubbling among white youth, enabling them to relate to gangsta rap through his white rap. This is, perhaps, what critics of Eminem are most worried about: protecting white kids from the disillusionment contained within gangsta rap that is, through Eminem, being shouted by "one of their own." How can white supremacist capitalist patriarchy survive and multiply without its legions of virile hegemons in training?

Cool white male nihilism, swaggering raw heterosexuality, is not only present in music but also in other cultural mediums like the movies.

American Beauty built its box office (and Oscar for Best Picture) on an apparently nuanced and complex look at contemporary American family life. Another reading of the movie is that it chronicles the white man tightening his loosened grip over his family, his life, his society – a grip that has been loosened due to encroachment of an emasculating shrew of a wife, a rebellious daughter and a life-sucking unsatisfying job. Les Burnham's predicament, in other words, is everyone's fault but his. Emotional manipulation of the audience to solicit sympathy and glorify the white male is best exemplified when Les is killed at the end of the movie.

After depicting Les Burnham's mid-life identity crisis – losing his job, ditching his wife, working out, smoking up – Les achieves redemption by refusing to sleep with his teenage daughter's friend despite lusting after her from the very beginning of the movie. Les is not a morally depraved character, (the movie implies), but a moral and upright character. Soon after, Les is shot by the closeted and rage-filled ex-military neighbour. Whether or not the neighbour is really gay is not the issue.

The juxtaposition of Les' redemption followed by his murder by the man whom he

photo provided

shared a kiss with is an allegory for the destructive encroachment of deviant elements causing the decay of the fabric of American life. Movies like *American Beauty* (and others like *Fight Club*) attempt to solicit sympathy and understanding for the plight of the white male. It ignores and glosses over the historical fact that white men have been creating the system at the centre, a system they now apparently hate while soliciting empathy and compassion as passive on-lookers in fictional narratives.

Eminem threatens us by being "white" while shouting the anger that has been associated with being "black."

While the angst portrayed in fictional narratives is easily discernable as fiction, it's harder to tell if Slim Shady's shit is for real. Eminem confounds conventional wisdom when it comes to the politics and identities of class and race.

So what to make of Eminem? Even without the backing and blessing of Dr. Dre, Eminem's has serious skills. His rhythm and beats are solid, his rhyming and phrasing is crisp and he, ahem, has a vivid imagination. With seemingly three personalities – Eminem the rapper, the angry and violent Slim Shady spewing shit about "bitches" and "faggots," and as Marshall Mathers – he seems to be performing the very idea of the post-structuralist "schizoid."

The question is also why a white artist like Eminem receives flack for his brand of misogyny and homophobia while movies like *American Beauty* that are just (if not more) problematic are met with critical acclaim and commercial success? Working in a cultural form associated outside one's skin colour and identity is a subversive act as it renegotiates conventional notions. While Slim should be accountable for the shit he spews, it should be understood that this shit is the product of white supremacist capitalist patriarchy, the system and man himself. You know things are getting bad when even the white guy gets angry. Just ask Eminem.

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Top Ten Playlist For Mar 2-9th
Compiled By Lindsay Cooper: Music Director

	Artist	Title	Label
1	The Be Good Tanyas*	Blue	HorsePorch
2	Rae & Christian	Sleepwalking	K7!
3	Various	Japan For Sale	Sony
4	Mocean Worker	Aural & Hearty	Palm
5	Lemon Jelly	S/T	Beggars Ban..
6	Takako Minekawa	Maxi On	Emperor N..
7	Centro-matic	South San	Gabrielldol
8	Tortoise	Standards	Thrill Jockey
9	Appendix Out	The Night Is..	Drag City
10	Lesser	Gearhound	Matador

ranked according to airplay
* denotes Canadian

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Vikes men take aim at ninth CIAU basketball title in Halifax this weekend

by Jeremy Shragge

While the era of the University of Victoria men's basketball dynasty is long over, the shadow of seven consecutive national titles in the 80s will be omnipresent this weekend as the Vikes battle it out at the 2001 CIAU championships.

Led by fifth year shooting guard and Canada West First Team All-Star Ali Wilmott, Victoria travels to the Halifax Metro Centre seeded seventh in the CIAU Final Eight.

On March 4, in front of a full-capacity crowd at McKinnon Gym, the Vikes defeated the two-time reigning conference champion Alberta Golden Bears in dramatic fashion, 78-77. With the victory, Victoria took the three game championship series 2-1, and as a result, earned themselves the Canada West invitation to the big show, March 16-17.

Few people, including head coach Guy Vetrie, predicted in the autumn that the Vikes would be in the position they are in now. After starting the year a mediocre 4-4, Vetrie's squad won 13 of its last 14 contests, including a two game sweep of the Bears on the final weekend of the regular season that nudged them to the top the table.

In addition to Wilmott's extraordinary play (he led the Vikes in scoring with 16.9 points per game, good for third in Canada West), Victoria received outstanding efforts from Canada West Second Team All-Star shooting guard Keith Bustard as well as starting point guard and conference Rookie of the Year Chris Trumpy.

Vetrie, whose dead pan, "easy as you please" style of coaching was a huge factor in the team's mid-season resurrection, garnered his third Coach of the Year award in five seasons, the seventh of his career.

From 1980 to 1986, Victoria held sway over the entire CIAU, winning the greatest number of consecutive national basketball titles in history – in either men's or women's competition. Since 1986, however, the Vikes have won only one championship banner (1997).

In order to repeat the feat, Wilmott, Bustard, Trumpy et al will have to play the maddest hoops of their lives, and then some. The four day, single elimination tournament leaves the competitors zero room for error, as Alberta learned last year.

Entering the Final Eight seeded number one, the Bears were immediately relegated to the consolation pool after falling in their first match to the upstart, eighth seeded Brandon Bobcats.

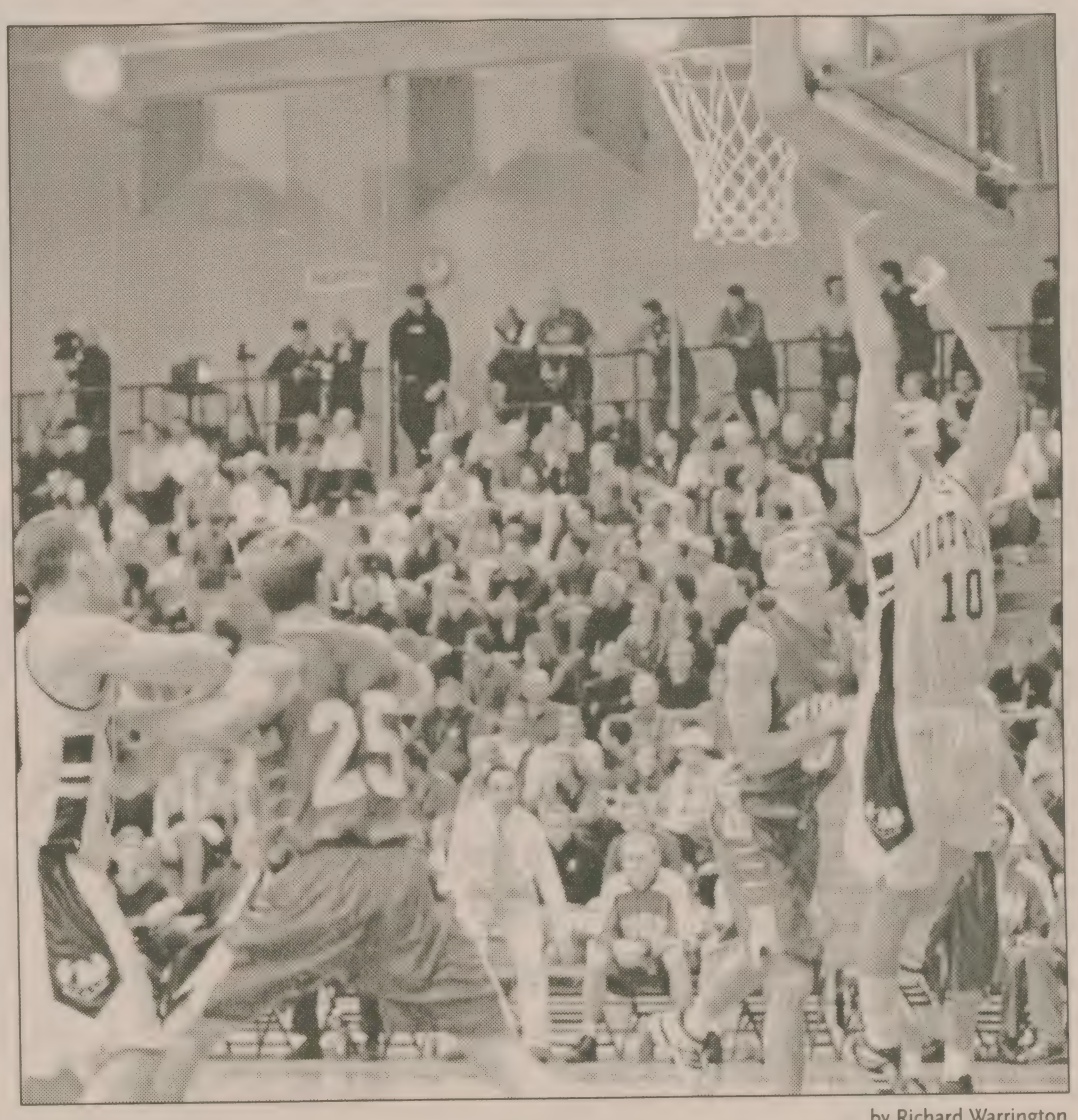
This Friday at 11:00 a.m. (PST), Victoria tips off against the number two seed Western Ontario Mustangs. Lead by CIAU scoring champion Andy Kwiatkowski (21.9 ppg), Western defeated the McMaster Marauders for the Ontario University Athletics West title 65-55, on March 3.

One week later, they overwhelmed the OUA East champion Carleton Ravens, 69-59, to take the province-wide Wilson Cup.

At the end of the day, the Hamiltonians were granted one of the two wild-card spaces in the national tournament and seeded sixth, while the Ravens were situated fourth.

As the number two seed, the Mustangs are, on paper, the odds-on favourites in the quarter-final. Regardless, predicting a winner in this match is a dodgy prospect indeed, due to both the brevity of the OUA West season (14 games compared to 22 in the Canada West) and the lack of inter-conference competition.

The victor of the Western-Vikes contest will go on to face the winner of the Brandon Bobcats-Saint Mary's match (Great Plains champion and Atlantic finalist/wild card, respectively). The semi-final game will be aired live on TSN, Saturday at 3:00 p.m. (PST). All Vikes matches can be heard live on CFUV 101.9.



by Richard Warrington

Vikes # 10 Etienne Orr-Ewing performs a spectacular lay up.

CIAU Men's Final Eight Tournament Seeding
Halifax, N.S., March 16-18

1. St. Francis Xavier x-Men
2. University of Western Ontario Mustangs
3. Brandon University Bobcats
4. Carleton University Ravens
5. McMaster University Marauders
6. Saint Mary's University Huskies
7. **University of Victoria Vikes**
8. Universite Laval Rouge et Or

CIAU scores and standings

Canada West Basketball Finals: Results

McKinnon Gym, Victoria, B.C.
Friday, March 2
M: **Alberta 60, Victoria 58**
UVic: Ali Wilmott: 20 pts, 4 assists.

W: **Calgary 70, Victoria 66**
UVic: Kim Johnson: 25 pts, 4 assists; Lindsay Brooke, 11 pts, 7 assists.

Saturday, March 3
M: **Alberta 60, Victoria 67**
UVic: Ali Wilmott, 21 pts, 7 assists.

W: **Calgary 59, Victoria 54**
UVic: Kim Johnson: 16; Lindsay Brooke, 4 pts, 11 assists.

Sunday, March 4
M: **Alberta 77, Victoria 78**
UVic: Chris Trumpy: 14 pts, 5 assists.

CIAU Women's Basketball Championships: Results
Varsity Gym, Edmonton, AB.

Quarterfinals
Thursday, March 8
McMaster 49, Regina 93
Dalhousie 67, Calgary 74
Alberta 79, Laval 64
Queens 51, Victoria 47

Championship Semifinals
Friday, March 9
Calgary 67, Regina 71
Alberta 70, Queens 62

Consolation Semi-finals
Friday, March 9
McMaster 58, Dalhousie 70
Laval 67, Victoria 81

Consolation Final
Saturday, March 10
Dalhousie 62, Victoria 75

Bronze Medal Game
Saturday, March 10
Queens 60, Calgary 82

Championship Final
Sunday, March 11
Alberta 84, Regina 85

Final Tournament Standings
1. University of Regina Cougars
2. University of Alberta Pandas
3. University of Calgary Dinos
4. Queens University Golden Gaels
5. **University of Victoria Vikes**
6. Dalhousie University Tigers
7. Universite Laval Rouge et Or
8. McMaster University Maraduers

Tournament MVP: Cymone Bouchard, Regina
CIAU MVP: Leighann Doan, Calgary
Sylvia Sweeney-TSN Award: **Lindsay Brooke, Victoria**

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CONCACAF invades UVIC

by Eliot Pense

There is no denying that the Canadian national soccer team flopped in qualifying for the 2002 World Cup in Japan. Thanks to the men's under-20 squad, there is once again evidence that the Great White North is not bereft of football talent.

"I'm just ecstatic," gushed Paul James, coach of the Canadian Under-20s, after they defeated Mexico 1-0 on March 3. The victory earned the Canucks a berth in the World Youth Championships in South America.

"It still hasn't really sunk in yet, but this is such an accomplishment to advance to Argentina," said James.

Canada's youth team shutout eighth-ranked Mexico and 41st ranked Honduras (also by 1-0) on their way to claiming top spot in the CONCACAF (Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football) Group A qualifying tournament Feb. 28, and March 2-3 at UVic's Centennial Stadium.

Canada's team was without the usual lethary and defensive-minded style this weekend as the team showed an offensive flare never seen before in Canadian soccer.

Spearheading this new style of play was Brampton, Ont. native Ian Hume. Coming into the tournament, all eyes were on the 17-year-old, 5'7" striker. Hume, who was last year the youngest player to take the field for the Tranmere Rovers of the English First Division, is also the youngest footballer on the Canadian squad.

Hume's English club has set him up with a surrogate family with whom he has been living since last September.

Considered a football prodigy in the prestigious English soccer leagues, Hume displayed brilliance this weekend, constantly puzzling the opposing defenders with his speed and agility.

During their stay in Victoria the Youth squad played two practice matches against the Vikes: a 3-0 loss and a 2-2 draw. Vikes head coach Bruce Wilson was quick to add that the national team was missing "a few of their imports," for the friendlies.

Tied atop the tournament scorers' table, Juan DeGuzeman was Canada's most productive player, scoring both of the team's goals (Canada drew Jamaica 0-0 on Sunday). DeGuzeman, one of the imports to which Wilson referred, plays professionally in Germany for Saarbrucken FC.

DeGuzeman's accuracy combined with MLS (Major League Soccer) draftee Ali Ngon's size (5'11", 190 pounds) proved too much for the characteristically slimmer Latin-American counterparts.

The largest team by far were the Jamaicans, who started five players that stood at least 6'2" including tournament MVP Shavir Thomas. Having never before made it to the World Youth Games, Jamaica entered the weekend's play unranked and the clear underdog.

A key factor in the weekend's major upset, however, the West Indians' draw with Canada had the effect of ousting Mexico from the world junior championships – for only the fourth time in 15 competitions.

Another promising sign for Canadian football came from the tremendous fan support exhibited in Victoria. Centennial Stadium was close to capacity for each of the home side's three matches, leaving many of the players pleasantly surprised.

"I was actually astonished really," said Hume of the turn outs. "It was unbelievable. I didn't think it would be this good."

Tournament organizers had previously contemplated holding the games at Vancouver's Swangard Stadium but decided on Victoria as a viable alternative largely as a result of persistent lobbying by the city's soccer community.

A busy soccer schedule follows for the Canadian squad. Many of the players head home to finish their regular club seasons while others will continue training with the national team.

In May the squad rejoins for a tour of Europe and South America before the championships kick-off in Argentina on June 17.

photo by Richard Warrington

With late afternoon shadows creeping in, the UVic turf field came to life Tuesday afternoon as a mob of women field hockey players battled it out.

Four Vikes rubgy players off to Chile

by Ben Yong

Stanley McKeen is one of four students from the University of Victoria who have been selected to participate in the World Under-19 Junior Rugby Championships this April in Santiago, Chile.

The four students athletes will make up part of the 26-player team chosen to represent Canada, going up against the best the world has to offer.

This year, the exclusive Canadian team is comprised entirely of players from the B.C. (20), and Ontario (6) provincial teams. "It's a pretty big honour to be selected," said McKeen, a first-year Social Sciences student.

The other three team members from the UVic, Aaron Vani, Charlie Lamb and Cameron Fraser, are all first-year students and Vikes rugby players. McKeen said the varsity program has been extremely helpful in preparing him for the championships, particularly coach Doug Tate.

"He's a pretty amazing coach," said McKeen, who's been playing rugby since the sixth grade. "He's pushed me to another level."

The national team members were picked near the beginning of winter holidays and have since been practicing three times a week. Training for the Championships begins on March 28 in Abbotsford, B.C., and the team leaves for Chile on April 1.

The annual rugby tournament is the largest of its kind, similar to the World Cup. A different country hosts the event each year; last year's competition was held in France. There are 32 participating countries in total, split into two pools: A and B. Canada is seeded second in pool B, and will battle 15th-seeded Belgium in the first round.

The tournament starts April 6, and is scheduled to run until April 15.

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March Madness is coming

by Craig Battle

What time is it? Game time, hoo!

Oh, you know what that phrase means. *You* know. It conjures images of polyester mesh and glass backboards. It rings with hardwood and happy feet. In other words it sounds like high time for basketball, friends. And not just any basketball. Basketball with *soul*.

We're talking March Madness, the Big Dance, the National Collegiate Association of Athletics (NCAA) annual basketball tournament (or simply, the "Tournament"). But, the various names don't quite cover it. We're talking the James Brown of all basketball tournaments.

March Madness: 64 teams, 17 days, 13 cities; single-elimination format (you lose once and you're done). In the end, like in *the Highlander* movies, there can be only one. The final two surviving teams face off in a battle of sheer will. ("Two men enter. One man leave.")

While sportscasters all over the world play up the Tournament's drama to no end -- by belittling and commercializing it – some purity remains. As a wise friend once told me, as he put one fist to his heart, "Craig, it's all about the love."

That is why you get the dramatics in the first place. It's the love that propelled Duke's Christian Laettner to put up the "shot heard 'round the world" with 0.4 seconds left to win the 1992 Tournament.

The Tournament is for real. It's the only sporting event synonymous with insanity. The only event that is more associated with March than spring, and the only event worthy of so many titles – and beautiful ones at that.

Playoff rounds in most other sports are not usually named. But like I said, the Big Dance is no ordinary tournament. The first and second rounds are anonymous, but the goods hit by the third. After the second round comes the Sweet Sixteen – and even if you miss the coming-of-age analogy it still sounds cool.

Then comes the Elite Eight. It's all about power for these kids. They are better than *everyone* and they have alliteration to prove it.

Next, with possibly the weakest appellation of the bunch, is the much vaunted Final Four. While the phrase displays the simple weight of the achievement, and sounds better than "the semi finals," it lacks a little in ingenuity.

If you ask me, the NCAA should have taken a cue from Marvel Comics and deemed it the Fantastic Four, that way they play up the superhuman aspects and save the alliteration.

So for whom am I cheering? Well, that's a tough call. The Duke Blue Devils, the East division's number-one seed, is the safest bet you can make. They're talented, mature and they've been through all this before.

Michigan State and Stanford are basically in the same boat. But in all seriousness who really cares about safe bets? I don't. I work from the bottom up, cheering for the lowest seed at all times. Therefore, I'm going for the Northwestern State Demons.

Originally tied with mighty Winthrop University for the sixteenth and last seed in the Midwest, the Demons defeated their opponents with a definitive cry: "This basement ain't big enough for the both of us." The sweet victory gives Northwestern State the bitter privilege of facing number-one seed (and perennial powerhouse) Illinois in the first round starting Friday, March 16.

Admittedly, not even Dickie Vitale is pulling for the Demons. Chances are excellent you'll hear him say, "They're losers, baby!" long before halftime. To boot, a sixteenth-seed has never, ever won the whole thing.

But you can never be too sure with the Big Dance. The Demons have already won a game. They're on a streak. If they beat Illinois, they'd have momentum and only five more games to play. Only five teams between them and that elusive national championship. It's possible.

In the end, there is little purity left in major sports. I know some would even argue that the state of the American scholarship system violates the Big Dance's V-card, but honestly, the Tournament is as close to unsullied as you'll find on tv.

Oh, and if you're watching the games with some friends, remember to tell them it's all about the love. That, and yell "What time is it?" every chance you get.

photo by Marcus Bence

Pandas steal CIAU b-ball silver

by Clive Kriekenbeek and Jeremy Shragge

EDMONTON (CUP) – The greater the obstacle, the more glory in overcoming it. As hosts of the CIAU Women's Basketball Championship, the University of Alberta Pandas defied all odds and kept the silver medal as a souvenir.

On Sunday morning, the University of Regina Cougars, led by tournament MVP Cymone Bouchard, defeated the Pandas 94-85 to take their first-ever national crown.

With a guaranteed invitation to the competition as host – after having been eliminated in the Canada West semi-finals by the Calgary Dinos – eighth seeded Alberta played the role of tournament underdog. In the process they climbed past some of the best teams in the country to reach the gold medal game against the number two seed, Great Plains champion Cougars.

In their quarter-finals victory over number-one Laval Rouge et Or defined a new level of play for Alberta. After resting for three weeks, the Pandas showed the intensity and composure of a championship team, and frustrated the Rouge et Or with an early lead.

By the half, the score was 42-33 in favour of Alberta. If that spread wasn't enough, Pandas' fifth year small forward Diane Smith scored 10 consecutive points to open the second period. At the final buzzer the Pandas had a convincing 79-64 victory.

"We decided we were going to come out to play and we came out," said Smith, who led with 23 points. According to Smith the game was about proving that they could do it. "We're going for the gold," exclaimed Smith. "And we're ready [by] the looks of tonight."

In the warm up of the semi-final match against Ontario East champions Queens Golden Gaels, as the public address announcer introduced the Pandas as "the most dangerous team" of the tournament, a grin appeared on the face of Queens head coach Dave Wilson. It soon disappeared, however, as Alberta took to the court and absconded with a 70-62 win.

It was neck-at-neck until the second half, when the Pandas slowly began to increase their lead and push their way through behind their strength of backcourt standouts Cristi Allan and Amanda Smith.

According to Alberta head coach Trix Baker, Smith was "the woman who made things happen," playing "unbelievably well," getting the tough shots as well as playing some tough defence.

"They did a very good job of moving the ball, playing the perimeter," said a defeated Wilson. "They had an aggressive defence that did a good job taking us out of our rhythm. I like what they're doing."

In the final, Alberta found its momentum quickly attenuated by a team that Baker called an older, mirror image of themselves. Once Regina got the lead, the Pandas were relegated to catch-up mode. Despite fifth year guard Cathy Butlin's game high 30 points, time simply ran out for Alberta. "We battled back, but could never cover the gap," said Amanda Smith.

"They've come a long way," said Baker the champs. "They're a lot more patient offensively, and they played great," she said.

The University of Victoria Vikes, who were invited to Edmonton as the single wild card of the tournament, were eliminated from contention Thursday night after a heartbreaking 51-47 loss to Queens.

The Vikes rebounded the next evening, thrashing a clearly disheartened Laval squad 81-67. In the fifth place/consolation final on Saturday, six players, Lindsay Brooke, Kim Johnson, Joanna Holdsworth, Emily King, Angela Mangan and Cristy Solomon, suited up in a Vikes uniform for the last time.

Led by Johnson's game high 30 point performance, Victoria salvaged a 75-62 victory to finish the competition with a 2-1 record.

Off the court, Brooke was given the 2000-1 Sylvia Sweeney/ TSN Award for academic achievement, athletic excellence and community involvement.

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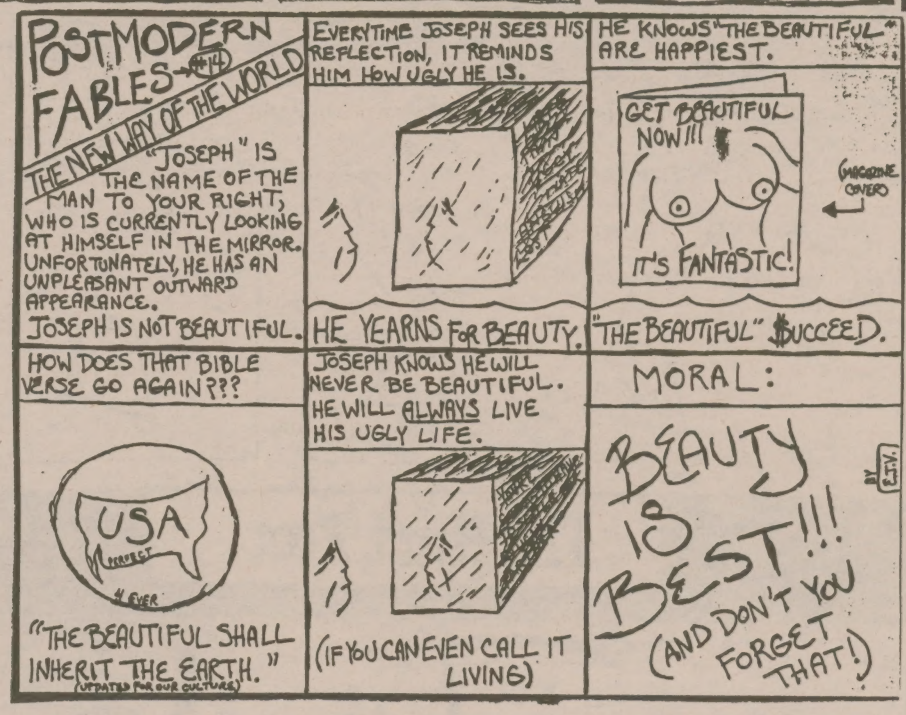
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ON CAMPUS

Literary event: On the Edge of the West. The English Graduate program invites the public to attend its **Fri. March 16** reading. Governor-General Award winner George Bowering joins visiting poet/scholar Roy Miki and Victoria author F.B. André on campus for a literary event! 8 p.m. in the Centre for Innovative Teaching 105, by donation. Call 721-7236.

A community forum: Creating Dialogue on Sexual Orientation – Becoming an Allie. **March 26,** 2:30-4:30, Cornett B108. Committee on the Status of Sexual Minorities. Panel and discussion to follow. Contact svilches@home.com

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Literary Studies and Global Culture Conference. Keynote speaker Dr. Diana Brydon. **March 16 &17** at the Holiday Inn Victoria, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. $40 student, $65 faculty; partial registration & student subsidies. Contact 721-7236. See web.uvic.ca/~englgrad/conference/ for details.

Women of colour resisting globalization: anti-globalization teach-in for everyone on issues of labour, racism, and global trade. Meeting **Sat. March 17** at the BCGEU bldg. 2994 Douglas St. from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call Sharmeen at 721-8353.

Café Philosophy: Taking public philosophy to a new level. Next topic Synchronicity: When is a coincidence more than mere coincidence? Are all events interconnected? Can meaning manifest as material causation? **Wed. March 21** at 7:30 p.m. De Torrefazione Italia (1234 Government St.), cover $4/$3 for students. For more information call Michael Picard, Ph.D., at 385-4646 or e-mail pyro@philosophy-shop.com

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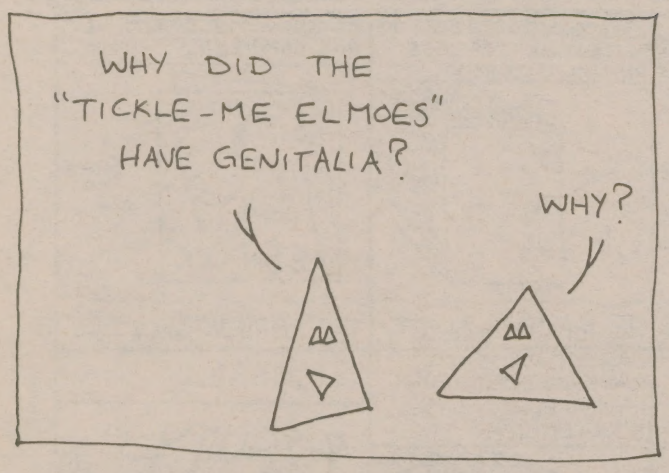
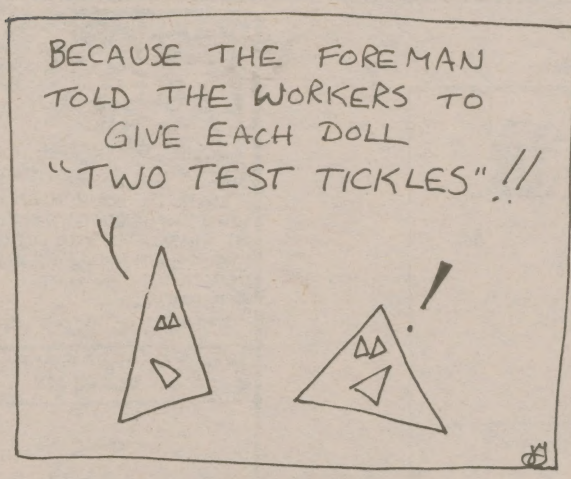
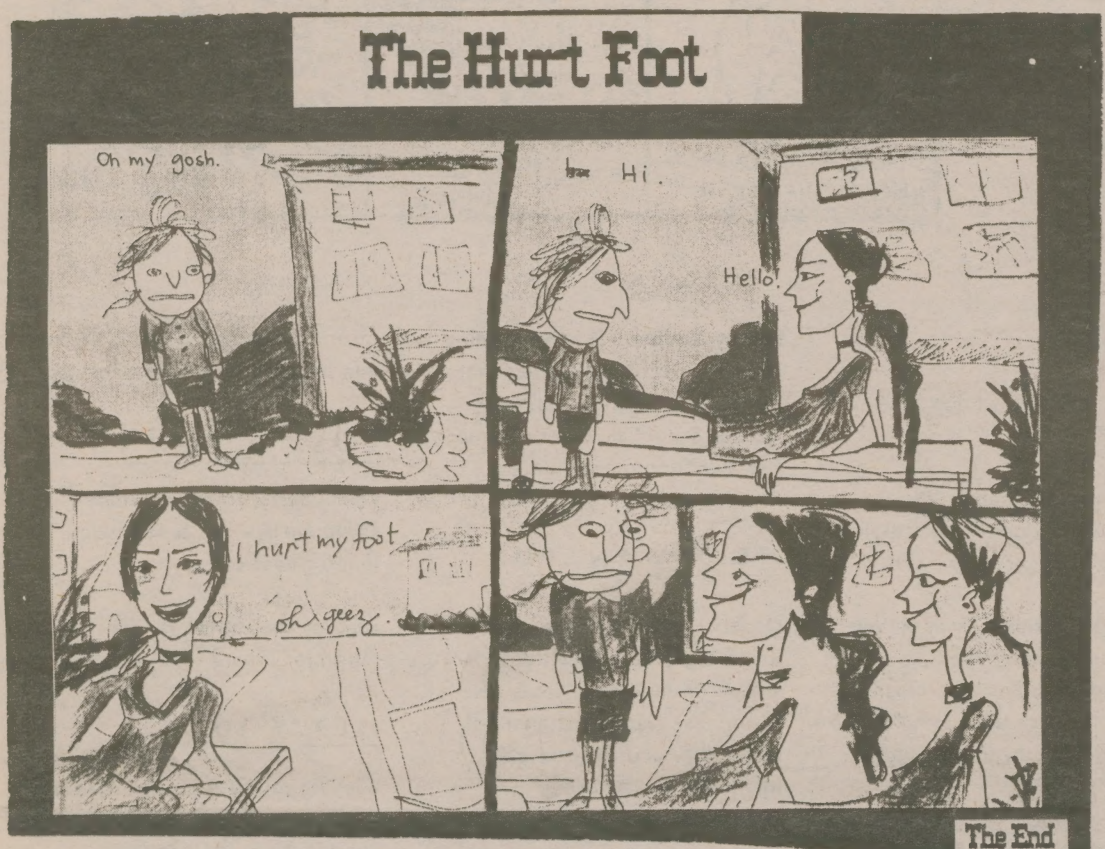
THE MARTLET
comics



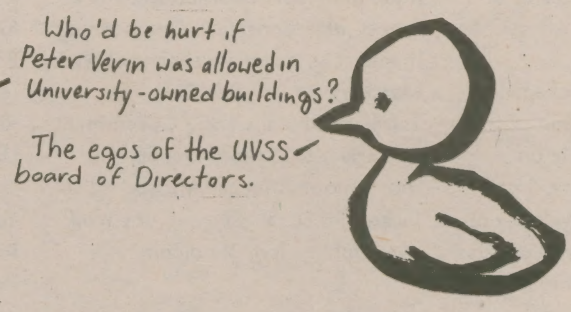


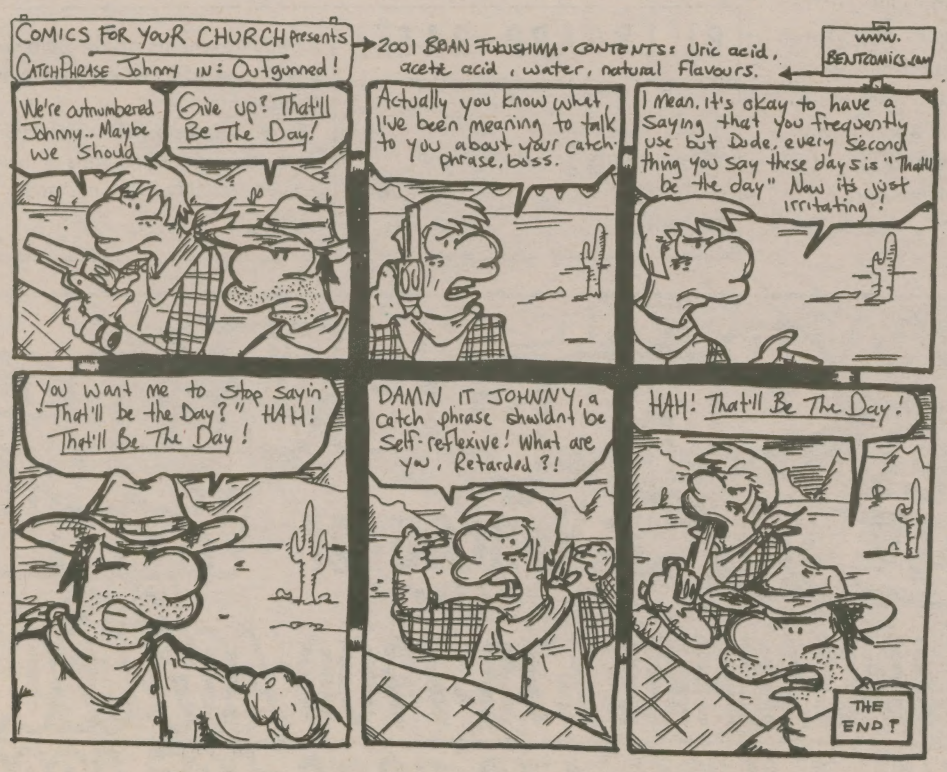


Martlet Sports Column, January 25, 2001:
"Booch: What DON'T I have against the Salsa? ...They treat the puck like a stray dog."

[Comics for your 1st-year English class]

6th




COMICS FOR YOUR CHURCH presents
CatchPhrase Johnny in: Outgunned!
2001 BRIAN FURUSHIMA • CONTENTS: Uric acid, acetic acid, water, natural Flavours.
www.BENJTCOMICS.com
We're outnumbered Johnny.. Maybe we Should
Give up? That'll Be The Day!
Actually you know what, I've been meaning to talk to you about your catch-phrase, boss.
I Mean, it's okay to have a Saying that you frequently use but Dude, every Second thing you say these days is "That'll be the day" Now its just irritating!
You want me to stop sayin' "That'll be the Day?" HAH! That'll Be The Day!
DAMN IT JOHNNY, a catch phrase shouldn't be Self-reflexive! What are you, Retarded?!
HAH! That'll Be The Day!
THE END?

O.K., SO IT DOESN'T QUITE HAVE THE PANACHE OF THE INQUISITION, BUT OUR BUMPER-STICKERS HAVE BEEN DOING QUITE WELL...
THE McJESUS MEAL
ONLY $4.99

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